

Social Democrats take lead in Portugal

LISBON (AP) — Early projections in Sunday's parliamentary elections indicated that Prime Minister Amal Cavaco Silva's Social Democrats might get enough votes to form the country's first majority government in 11 years. State-owned RDP radio forecast that the 48-year-old economist's party would get 40 to 45 per cent of the vote. The projection came just after the polls closed at 7 p.m. in continental Portugal. The polls were to close an hour later in the mid-Atlantic islands of Madeira and the Azores archipelago. State television (RTP) put the abstention rate at 27.5 to 29.5 per cent, the highest since Portuguese returned to the polls in general elections in 1976, two years after a military coup overthrew a 38-year dictatorship. Analysts consulted by RTP said the higher rate of abstention was due to leftist voters staying away from the polls. In October 1985 elections the abstention rate was 25.84 per cent. In the 1976 elections, only 14.36 per cent of voters stayed away. A stake in Sunday's voting were 250 seats in the national parliament and Portugal's 24 allotted seats in the European Parliament.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

14 killed in northern Italian floods

MORBEGNO, Italy (R) — At least 14 people were killed and several others reported injured or missing Sunday after rivers in northern Italy burst their banks and mudslides crashed into homes and a hotel. Government officials in Rome said earlier at least 22 people had died, mostly in the village of Tartano, near the Swiss border, where an apartment block was swept away by a mudslide and crashed into a hotel. But Civil Protection Minister Giuseppe Zamberletti told journalists after touring the disaster area in the Lombardy region by helicopter that the confirmed death toll in Tartano had now fallen to 12. The officials in Rome said there were two confirmed deaths in other villages and half a dozen people were missing in the flood area east of Lake Como. The officials said the situation was still confused because of the difficulties facing rescuers as they battled through flood water and mud to reach cut-off villages and homes. Many roads, railway lines and bridges were swept away or blocked by landslides triggered by a violent storm Saturday night following three days of heavy rainfall.

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Regent visits GHQ

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Sunday called at the Armed Forces General Headquarters. He was received upon arrival by Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleh, and his assistants and the Armed Forces inspector general.

Ghali predicts Libya-Sudan rift

CAIRO (R) — A senior Egyptian official was quoted on Sunday as saying Libya's continued involvement in Chad could harm Tripoli's relations with Sudan. Egypt's state minister for foreign affairs, Boutros Ghali, told the French-language daily Le Journal d'Egypte: "The Chadian crisis has evolved to an extent that it could cast a pall over Libyan-Sudanese relations." Dr. Ghali, architect of Egypt's Africa policy, said this could raise "the spectre of new tensions, rivalries and nefarious rifts within the Arab World." He was speaking before leaving for Addis Ababa to join African foreign ministers preparing for an Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit meeting on July 27.

Israel to avoid harassing visitors

TEL AVIV (AP) — In response to U.S. criticism, top Israeli officials decided Sunday to tighten supervision at the airport to avoid any harassment of black and Arab-American visitors. Foreign ministry official Yossi Beilin announced the decision after a meeting at his office with intelligence officers and other immigration personnel. The meeting followed statements of concern from the U.S. State Department, which warned last week that it would issue a travel advisory telling tourists they would be subjected to discrimination if they travelled to Israel. The U.S. government reportedly gave Israel a 30-day deadline to change the way it treats visitors. According to State Department spokesman Charles Redman about 75 Arab Americans and blacks were either forced to leave large cash deposits or sent back home while trying to enter Israel this summer.

Najib in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — Afghan leader Najib arrived in Moscow on Sunday on a previously unannounced visit that foreign analysts said was probably linked to his Soviet-backed government's efforts to end the war in Afghanistan. Mr. Najib was met at the airport by Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Anatoly Dobrynin, a key foreign policy adviser to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the official news agency TASS said. TASS described Mr. Najib's trip as a short visit, but gave no details of his programme.

ANC vows revenge

LUSAKA (R) — The African National Congress (ANC), the main movement fighting for black majority rule in South Africa, vowed Sunday to avenge the murder in Swaziland of military commander Cassius Make. Mr. Make, fellow ANC member Paul Dikeledi and a Mozambican woman, Elizabeth Augusta, were killed last Thursday by three gunmen who forced their taxi to stop as it was travelling from the airport to the capital Mbabane.

Paris and Tehran holding negotiations on exchange of diplomats

Combined agency dispatches

PARIS — France and Iran which broke diplomatic relations with each other on Friday were reported holding negotiations on Sunday to exchange diplomats besieged in their respective embassies in Paris and Tehran.

French police, pelted by rain, kept up their siege of the Iranian mission in Paris, with no indication of when the standoff that led to the rupture of diplomatic relations between the countries would be resolved.

French diplomats, staff and family also remained blockaded in their embassy building in Tehran.

Iranian Prime Minister Hussein Musavi, speaking on Tehran Radio, said France and Iran were "involved in negotiations, through conventional and diplomatic channels, about ex-

changing the diplomats in question."

A French Foreign Ministry spokesman, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the two countries were talking about how and when their embassy personnel could return home, with France proposing a Wednesday deadline.

France is insisting that Iranian embassy translator Wahid Gordji cannot leave before he submits to questioning by an investigating magistrate about last September's series of terrorist bombings in Paris.

While authorities will not spell out their reasons for wanting to talk to Mr. Gordji, French news reports say that police have linked him to people already charged with complicity in the case, and that Mr. Gordji himself could be implicated.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry has said it will not let Mr. Gordji become a "hostage" of the French. Iran also has said some of the French diplomats would be arrested and put on trial as spies.

But in his comments on Tehran Radio, Mr. Musavi did not mention Mr. Gordji, and did not repeat the threat to the French diplomats.

French police brought in six more floodlights Saturday night to add to three high-power lights already being used to illuminate the Iranian embassy building, a three-storey structure on the Right Bank, across the Seine River from the Eiffel Tower.

(Continued on page 3)

Carbomb attack brings pressure on Britain to sever ties with Iran

LONDON (Agencies) — Britain came under pressure on Sunday to cut diplomatic ties with Iran following a car bomb attack in London on an opponent of the Tehran government.

Amir Hussein Amir Parviz, head of the London office of former Prime Minister Shapur Bakhtiar's Paris-based Iranian National Movement, was recovering in hospital after his car exploded on a busy London street on Saturday.

The attack came two days after Tehran and Paris cut diplomatic relations, and amid growing tension in the Gulf where Iran has vowed to "encounter" U.S. ships preparing to escort reflagged Kuwaiti tankers.

A Foreign Office spokesman said Sunday the matter was in the hands of Scotland Yard and any official reaction would have to await the outcome of the police investigation into the bombing.

A group calling itself the Guardians of the Islamic Revolution claimed responsibility for the bombing and said there would be further attacks against "monarchists." Police said the attack could mark the start of a terror campaign in London by supporters of the eight-year-old Islamic regime.

A senior member of Mr. Amir Parviz's group, who asked not to be identified, said he feared further attacks against opponents

of Ayatollah Khomeini. He appealed to Britain to stop flights to Tehran and close both the Iranian embassy and the offices of the National Iranian Oil Company.

Earlier this week, 20 former Iranian military and police officers appeared in uniform at a London news conference and declared allegiance to the Iraqi-based Mujahadeen-e-Khalq National Liberation Army. They urged all Iranian servicemen to join the fight against Ayatollah Khomeini's government.

Last month, tensions flared between Britain and Iran over the arrest of an Iranian diplomat in Manchester on shoplifting charges and the abduction and beating of a British envoy in Tehran.

As a result, relations between the two countries have been downgraded to one caretaker diplomat in each capital.

The opposition Labour Party's foreign affairs spokesman, Gerald Kaufman, said the bomb attack could further threaten British-Iranian relations.

"If the perpetrator was found to be in any way connected with Iran's diplomatic mission in Britain, the government should consider whether to maintain its diplomatic links with Iran," he said in a radio interview, adding tougher immigration controls

were needed to stop potential Iranian extremists.

Conservative Member of Parliament Terry Dicks called on the government to sever relations with Tehran and deport all Iranians with political connections.

The attack on Mr. Amir Parviz — a minister of the late Shah — was reminiscent of one last August which killed the son of an exiled opponent of Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini when a bomb exploded in his video shop a short distance from the scene of Saturday's bombing.

Some analysts suggested the incidents could be connected with a struggle for succession in Iran, with factions vying to demonstrate they have the revolutionary credentials to succeed Ayatollah Khomeini, who is 84.

During the British-Iranian diplomatic row last month, the Foreign Office estimated there were 25,000 to 30,000 Iranians in Britain. Most are students sent by the Khomeini government, but many like Mr. Amir Parviz are opponents who fled after the Shah's fall.

In the first Iranian-linked bomb blast in 1981, two Iranians were killed and a third injured when a bomb exploded in their car near Marble Arch, about 1.5 kilometres from Saturday's explosion.

Syrians seek to end new Amal-PLO flare-up

SIDON, Lebanon (Agencies) — Syrian military observers held extensive talks in this southern port city on Sunday to try to contain the worst outbreak of fighting between Shi'ite Amal militiamen and Palestinians in three months, security sources said.

Three people were killed and 16 were injured on Saturday in clashes between Palestinian fighters and Amal militiamen around Palestinian refugee camps. Most of the casualties were civilians living in nearby areas, the sources quoted by Reuters said.

The sources said the Syrian observers were having talks with leaders in Sidon.

Saturday's fighting was the worst since Syria helped in April to broker a halt to the "camps war" between fighters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Amal men.

Witnesses told Reuters thousands of residents fled their homes to stay with relatives or to squat in unfinished buildings.

Rabin sends troops to bloc settlement ordered by Sharon

OCCUPIED WEST BANK (Agencies) — Israeli troops on Sunday prevented bulldozers from starting work on a new Jewish settlement ordered by Ariel Sharon, the industry minister, informed sources said.

The incident near the town of Tulikarem highlighted a confrontation in Israel's divided government over settlement policy in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

The defence minister, Yitzhak Rabin, is a member of the Labour Party, which opposes new settlements as an obstacle to Middle East peace efforts.

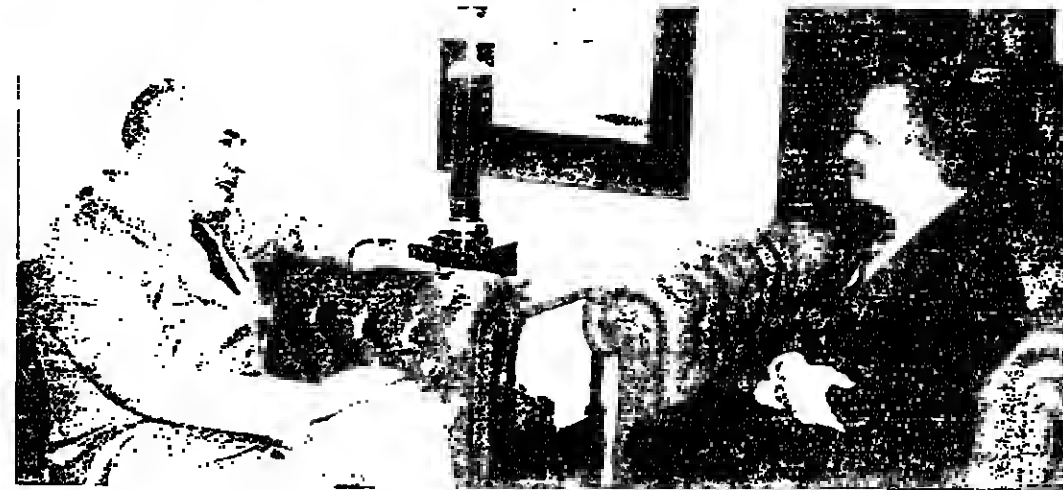
Eyewitnesses told Reuters troops moved in to prevent work starting at a planned industrial park and settlement ordered by Sharon and placed the bulldozers under guard.

Armed forces radio said the order sending in troops had come directly from Mr. Rabin.

The Israeli army declared the settlement site a closed military zone and prevented construction crews from entering.

Sources quoted by Reuters said no request had been made for the permits necessary to build in the area.

Sharon and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir both belong to the Likud bloc, pledged to fight the idea of a U.N.-sponsored international peace conference.



REGENT MEETS FAHOM: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, receives at the Royal Court on Sunday Khaled Al Fahom, former speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC), who is currently on a private visit to Jordan. Mr. Fahom is in Amman with his daughter who is undergoing treatment at the King Hussein Medical Centre (Petra photo).

Mr. Fahom is in Amman with his daughter who is undergoing treatment at the King Hussein Medical Centre (Petra photo).

Bulgarian minister voices support for peace conference

By Nermeen Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A high ranking Bulgarian official Sunday expressed his country's support for an international peace conference on the Middle East to bring about a durable and comprehensive settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Speaking at a press conference held at the Bulgarian embassy on Sunday, Deputy Foreign Minister Ivan Ganev told journalists that a peaceful state of affairs in the Middle East could only be

reached on the basis of an Israeli withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied since 1967 and the Palestinian people are given the right to self-determination. The Palestinian people, Mr. Ganev said, should be represented at the proposed peace conference by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"We call for the establishment of a preparatory committee composed of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council to discuss the problem with the concerned countries and then prepare a

working list of suggestions for the conference," Mr. Ganev said.

Mr. Ganev said the question of whether a separate Palestinian state or a confederation with Jordan is to be established "is a decision that should be taken by the Palestinians themselves and other Arab countries." But he said the conference should not be "an umbrella covering separate or bilateral talks since these talks would not reach a durable and conclusive peace accepted by all parties concerned."

(Continued on page 3)

King and Queen visit air show in Britain

LONDON (Agencies) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor on Sunday attended an international air show at a British Royal Air Force base at Fairford, some 130 kilometres west of London.

Jordan's national aerobatics team, the Royal Falcons, is taking part in the exhibition in addition to a Jordanian aircraft housing a display of the Kingdom's economic and social development over the years. Jordan is the only Third World country taking part in the exhibition, which opened three days ago.

The King and Queen, who are on a private visit to Britain, were accompanied on their visit to the air show on Sunday by Prime Minister and Defence Minister Zaid Rifai, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Royal Jordanian Air Force Commander Major General Ihsan Shurudun and Jordan's military attaché in London, Major General Shafiq Ujjail.

The King and Queen were accorded a warm official welcome upon their arrival at the air base. The Royal Falcons also staged an aerobatics show.

The King and Queen began their private visit to Britain on July 9.

Abdul Meguid meets Israeli leaders today

CAIRO (R) — Amid friction over a side-issue, Egypt's Foreign Minister Ahmad Esmat Abdul Meguid starts talks on Monday in Israel with its coalition partners divided on the main topic — an international Middle East peace conference.

He discussed his visit, the first by an Egyptian foreign minister to Israel in over five years, with President Hosni Mubarak on Sunday.

The president agreed last week in Geneva with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres that Mr. Abdul Meguid should visit Israel to discuss the peace conference idea.

Mr. Mubarak and Labour Party leader Peres have both called for a meeting this year grouping the big powers, Israel, the Arabs and Palestinians.

But the idea — backed by most Arab states, the Soviet Union and the European Community — is flatly opposed by Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Mr. Shamir is under strong pressure from his right-wing Likud bloc and the far-right opposition Tehiya party to create new Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in a political drive to torpedo a conference.

Hawkish Ariel Sharon, the industry minister, an advocate of "creating facts on the ground," sent bulldozers to prepare the ground for a new West Bank industrial zone near the town of Tulikarem on Sunday. They were stopped by soldiers acting on the orders of Labour Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin (See page 2).

Mr. Abdul Meguid is scheduled to meet Mr. Peres, Mr. Shamir and Israeli President Chaim Herzog on Monday and Mr. Rabin on Wednesday.

On Tuesday, he meets members of the Knesset (parliament), peace activists, newspaper editors and Palestinian leaders from the West Bank and Gaza. Egyptian officials said.

Egypt and Israel were already clashing over a side issue before Mr. Abdul Meguid set off. He bridled on Saturday at an attack by Mr. Shamir on an Egyptian invitation to Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, accused by Jewish groups of wartime Nazi activities, to visit Cairo.

"Egypt would not allow any country to interfere in its decisions, just as it does not interfere in Israel's internal affairs," he told reporters.

Egypt and Israel have shelved a territorial dispute, over the tiny Israeli-held Sinai enclave of Taba, leaving arbitrators in Geneva to settle the issue.

Report cites systematic torture and abuse of Arab children by Israelis

TEL AVIV (R) — A report compiled by a Christian clergyman says that Palestinian teenagers are routinely beaten and subjected to mental and physical harassment during interrogation in Israeli prisons.

The report, "Children in Israeli Military Prisons," compiled by Canon Riah Abu Al Assal of Nazareth's Episcopalian Church and three American researchers, includes detailed accounts of 17 cases of maltreatment of minors, several of whom were never brought to trial.

"We conclude that physical mistreatment in the extreme is standard procedure during the incarceration of these children in Israeli military prisons," Canon

Assal said in a letter to U.S. Congressman Lee Hamilton, chairman of a House of Representatives panel on the Middle East.

The unpublished study, obtained by Reuters, suggests that beatings are carried out by soldiers and border police patrolling the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as well as by interrogators from Israel's notorious Shin Bet security service and by prison wardens.

"These cases are not isolated ones reflecting a problem with a particular institution or prison administrator, but reflect actual conditions to which all children are subjected when in custody of Israel's military penal institu-

tions," the letter said.

The Israeli authorities deny there is torture in military prisons.

The pattern of brutality outlined in the report reflects complaints heard frequently by foreign correspondents.

The report focuses on the young ages of many detainees, "the lack of due process available to these children in military courts," the 18-day prohibition on visits from parents, lawyers or the Red Cross, the denial of adequate medical attention to ill or injured youths and the arbitrary and indiscriminate nature of arrests.

(Continued on page 2)

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U.S. convoy to run gauntlet from missiles to mines in Gulf

BAHRAIN (R) — U.S. warships escorting Kuwaiti tankers into troubled Gulf waters will run a gauntlet of Silkorm missiles, high-speed motor launches and mines.

Shipping sources said Iran was capable of threatening the U.S. convoy throughout the 880-kilometre trip from the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf to Kuwait at the other end.

American warships, backed by air support from the U.S. carrier Constellation patrolling outside the strait, are due to escort the 401,382-tonne Kuwaiti super-tanker Bridgeton into the Gulf within the next week.

Iran has raised the temperature in the Gulf by threatening to sink American warships after the Reagan administration announced it would allow Kuwait to re-register 11 of its tankers under the U.S. flag and provide naval protection.

Iran fronts almost the entire northern side of the Gulf and will have the U.S. convoy well within range of its anti-ship missiles passing through the strait, just less than 40 kilometres wide and described by President Ronald Reagan as the "chokepoint of freedom."

The Chinese-designed Silkorm missiles have an effective strike distance of 80 kilometres and, according to one naval source, "can blow a tanker right out of the water."

"There is no room for complacency over the Silkorm," he added. "To fire one would be a major escalation of the Gulf war."

The military magazine Jane's defence weekly said in its latest edition the Iranians have several Silkorm missile sites overlook-

machineguns and grenade-launchers.

The Swedish-built boats, operating from islands and oil platforms in the Gulf, have become Tehran's main attack force in what has become known as the "tanker war."

The guns and grenades of the Revolutionary Guards are unlikely to do much damage against a supertanker the size of the Bridgeton, as long as four foot-ball fields. "It would be like sticking pins into an elephant," said one shipping source.

But diplomats fear launches loaded with explosives could be used to devastating effect in suicide missions. One said it would be like trying to fend off "a swarm of mosquitoes."

The last reported hit-and-run raid by Iranian gunboats was six days ago on the French container vessel Ville d'Anvers.

Some shipping operators thought three consecutive days of Iraqi air strikes against Iranian offshore bases last week could have knocked out some boats.

As the convoy nears Kuwait, there could be the renewed threat of Silkorms and seabed mines laid in the channel leading to Kuwait's main oil terminal of Mina Al Ahmadi.

Military sources said Iran had constructed missile launch pads on the captured Fao Peninsula, some 80 kilometres from Kuwait and within range of approaching shipping. But there was no confirmation of Silkorms actually being deployed there.

The mines proved a real threat, damaging four ships in May and June. Since then, the U.S. has flown in naval experts who have found 10-12 mines anchored to the seabed.

Diplomats say the United States and Saudi Arabia are now busy helping the Kuwaitis clear the mines.

An Iranian air attack is not regarded as a serious threat, with Tehran's air force severely depleted and outdated.

But aviation sources in the region say Iran is making contacts with arms dealers to try to buy spare and new technical equipment to upgrade some 80 serviceable F-4 and F-5 aircraft and make up to 40 more planes airworthy.

Iran to hold exercises

Meanwhile Iran has announced it plans to conduct naval exercises in the Gulf.

On Saturday, the military headquarters of the Revolutionary Guards said manoeuvres would soon begin in preparation "for crushing the suicidal moves" of the world's "blasphemous powers."

The guards' statement said the manoeuvres are code-named Shahadat, which means "martyrdom" in the Iranian language, Farsi.



Syrian cosmonaut Mohammad Fares (right) and his back-up Munir Habib during a practice mission in the Soviet Union.

First Syrian cosmonaut goes up on Wednesday

DAMASCUS (R) — A tablet inscribed with the world's first alphabet soars into space on Wednesday as Syria's first astronaut carries with him a relic from the dawn of civilisation on a globe-girdling trip.

The 10-day mission marks a new phase in cooperation between Moscow and Damascus.

Lieutenant-Colonel Mohammad Fares, 36, an air force pilot, will be part of a three-man team to carry out medical and other research during the space flight.

Col. Fares will carry with him earth from Damascus, a sample of Syrian wheat, and the tablet found at Ugarit in northwest Syria inscribed with history's first alphabet.

Syrian officials said Col. Fares, father of a son and a daughter,

and his back-up, 33-year-old Munir Habib, another air force colonel, had completed their training and moved to the launch centre in Kazakhstan.

The Soviet crew members will be mission commander Alexander Viktorovskiy and Alexander Alexandrov.

Col. Fares, born into a poor family in Aleppo, northern Syria, where his father still works as a driver, will be the second Arab astronaut into space.

The first was Saudi Arabian Prince Sultan bin Salman bin Abdul Aziz, who took part in a 1985 American shuttle mission.

The Soyuz TM-3 will orbit for two days while the crew conduct experiments, then dock with the Mir space station.

The officials said Col. Fares will

analyse Syrian oil and water resources, as well as study characteristics of the Syrian desert and the Euphrates River valley. He will also conduct a number of experiments on the effects on materials of weightlessness.

The Syrian media quoted Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev as commenting on the mission that Syrian-Soviet cooperation "has risen to the stars."

Soviet cosmonaut General Pyotr Kleimok said the trip would benefit the fields of medicine, natural resources, environmental protection and agricultural production.

The spacecraft will fly over Syria on July 25 when the crew will send greetings to President Hafez Al Assad and the Syrian people.

Report cites Israeli torture

(Continued from page 1)

Some of the cases involved children as young as 12. Most were arrested on suspicion of taking part in anti-Israeli demonstrations or throwing stones.

The report notes that many of the techniques described by the Palestinian teenagers were subsequently found to have been used by Shin Bet interrogators on an Israeli army lieutenant freed by the supreme court in April after seven years of wrongful imprisonment on espionage charges.

The study says physical abuse begins as soon as the teenagers are picked up in night-time raids on their homes in West Bank and Gaza U.N. refugee camps.

Many said they were kicked and trampled on the floor of army trucks on their way to interrogation centres.

"All are subjected to systematic humiliation, beatings and torture during the course of interrogation and imprisonment, and all are denied full due process of law," the report says.

Children, according to the report, are frequently hooded, made to stand outside with their hands raised for several days, deprived of sleep, forced to take cold showers, beaten on the soles of their feet or thrown to the ground and kicked.

The research concludes that many children are "tortured into confessing" acts they never committed in order to stop beatings and physical abuse by their military or Shin Bet interrogators.

Prisoners are then made to sign a statement in Hebrew, a language few Palestinian children can read.

In some cases, they later learn the document refers to a much more serious offence than the one "admitted."

U.N. relief workers and lawyers who were shown the report described it as highly credible, based on their experience. The study cites one case in the Gaza Strip in which a military judge dismissed the evidence of six Arab community leaders over a clash at a school with the words "all Palestinians are liars."

It says that under the rules of evidence used in the military courts, the burden of proof is on the accused and suspicion is sufficient grounds for conviction.

Among the detention centres cited for frequent mistreatment are Bassa military station in Bethlehem, the Faras and Jneid prisons, the so-called Ansar-2 camp in Gaza, and police stations in Ramallah and Khan Younis.

More groups join threat against Paris

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Two pro-Iranian Lebanese groups on Sunday joined the Tehran-backed Hizbollah (Party of God) militia in threatening France over its decision to sever ties with Iran.

Statements supporting Iran from Islamic Amal and the Group of Muslim Clergymen were published in Beirut newspapers. "France" shoulders the complete responsibility... this makes all its embassies and interests subject to danger at any place that hands of Muslims can reach," the Group of Muslim Clergymen said.

The group includes pro-Iranian Shi'ite and Sunni Muslim clerics from Beirut and South Lebanon.

Islamic Amal, a Shi'ite group that works with Iranian Revolutionary Guards in East Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, said: "We consider ourselves responsible for confronting the French decision and retaliating to it."

Paris cut relations with Tehran after an 18-day crisis triggered by the refusal of an Iranian embassy interpreter to submit to questions about bombings in Paris last September.

Peres sees Shultz as having missed 'historic' peace chance

By Mary Curtin.

ISRAELI Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, watching his dream of leading Israel to peace talks with Jordan and the Palestinians slip away, blames his political woes at least partly on United States Secretary of State George Shultz.

Mr. Shultz, senior Israeli officials say, missed an historic opportunity for the U.S. to broker peace talks between Israel and a Jordanian-Palestinian team, and through default has allowed Moscow to seize the diplomatic initiative in the region.

The rift between Peres and Shultz began last spring when the secretary cancelled a planned visit to the region. Peres had been angling for months for Shultz to practice some of the shuttle diplomacy that former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger used in 1974 to achieve the "disengagement" agreements between Israel and Egypt, and Israel and Syria.

By April of this year, Peres had achieved a breakthrough that Peres believed brought him close to wrapping up the terms for an international peace conference. Again Peres appealed to Shultz to personally tie up loose ends. This time, the secretary of state accepted.

But Shultz cancelled his planned visit after Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, leader of the hard-line Likud half of government, sent Minister Moshe Arens to Washington with a message that a Shultz visit would be interpreted here as direct interference in internal Israeli politics.

The government was evenly split over an international conference, Mr. Arens said, and a Shultz visit would only appear to be direct U.S. pressure on Likud. Shultz opted not to go. And Peres found he couldn't get a cabinet vote in favour of a peace conference.

Peres' aides warn that if the

situation continues to drift, what they call the "consensus for peace" that has developed in Israel, Jordan, and Egypt since late 1984 will deteriorate. They point to the energetic diplomatic activity in the region of the Soviet Union, a supporter of hard-line Arab states and the Palestine Liberation Organisation, as a dangerous development that threatens to erode the self-confidence of moderate regimes in the Arab World — which have all worked to expand the peace process.

"The Soviet Union is no longer working on the assumption that it wants to have equal influence in the region with the U.S.," an Israeli official says. "It is striving to be the dominant force in the region."

It has improved relations with Egypt, it continues to support Syria, it is doing well in the Gulf, it helped reunite the PLO, and it is showing flexibility on the question of a peace conference. It is taking steps to improve relations with Israel.

Moscow wants a peaceful settlement, this analyst says, but along lines unacceptable to Israel and the U.S. — Israeli withdrawal from lands it occupied in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, and the creation of a Palestinian state along side Israel.

A senior Western diplomatic source, speaking on condition he not be named, agreed with the Israeli assessment that the Soviet Union is at least temporarily outmanoeuvring the U.S. in the region.

"It is not that the United States was always brilliant in the region," he says. "It is just that they could count on the Soviet Union to be really bad. That is no longer the case. The Soviets seem to be much more adept in their approach. Their diplomatic moves are very impressive."

The Christian Science Monitor.

Roman resort unearthed on Egyptian holiday beach

MARINA BEACH, Egypt (R)

Chinese and Egyptian engineers building a resort village on the Mediterranean coast found someone had got there first — 2,000 years ago.

A Chinese worker digging the office block for Marina Beach, close to the World War II battle-grounds of Al Alamein and 95 kilometres west of Alexandria, struck a limestone wall.

It turned out to be part of an old city archaeologists believe to be Leucaspis, a Greco-Roman health spa and summer resort which existed until the second century A.D.

Digging unearthed chambers overlooking a lagoon extending from the sea.

Workers for the Chinese contractors, the state-owned Construction Engineering Corporation, found what archaeologist Ahmad Abdol Fattah believes was a temple dating back from the Ptolemies, Macedonian kings who ruled Egypt for 300 years until 30 B.C.

Pottery, utensils, bird-shaped oil lamps and statues were also found which could shed light on life in Egypt during the Roman empire.

Leucaspis, one of many resorts listed in the works of Strabo, the Greek geographer and historian, was a wine centre. Wine-making utensils are among the broken pottery, coloured glass, chunks of yellowish wall-coating and other relics lying on the beach.

Other finds include bathtubs, coins and limestone walls of what appears to be villas of the third century B.C.

Work was suspended on Marina Beach after the discovery six months ago and Egypt's antiquities department declared the site out of bounds. But with tourism a priority industry, construction later resumed on areas around the excavations.

"This might make the new village a tourist attraction as well as a model sea resort," Mr. Fattah told Reuters.



The 401,600-ton Kuwaiti tanker remained the 'Bridgeton' anchored near the Strait of Hormuz. This tanker will be the first Kuwaiti tanker to fly the American flag next week.

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17:30 The Wonderful World of Magic
18:00 Arabic series
18:30 Local dialogue
19:10 Message from Oman
19:30 Local programme on the Armed Forces
19:50 Programme Review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
21:20 Tourism in Jordan
21:50 Arab Scholars
22:40 News Summary in Arabic
23:10 Arab Scholars contd.

PROGRAMME TWO

18:50 Ruc Cornet
19:30 La cuisine de monde
19:50 News in French
19:55 Sport magazine (French)
19:58 News in Hebrew
19:55 Beyond 2000
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Thrash
21:10 Mussolini: The Untold Story
22:00 News in English
22:30 Goya
23:10 Love Boat

RADIO JORDAN

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07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsweek
07:50 Morning Show
08:00 News Summary
08:05 Just a Minute
08:10 Follow the Wind
08:15 News Summary
08:25 Pop Session
08:30 News Summary
08:35 Pop Session Contd.
08:40 News Bulletin
08:45 Piano Magic
08:50 Concert Hour
09:00 News Summary
09:05 Instruments
09:10 Old Favourites
09:15 Pop Session
09:20 News Summary
09:25 Sports Roundup
09:30 News Desk
09:35 Date with a Star

BBC WORLD SERVICE

630, 720, 1323 KHz

07:00 Newsweek 07:30 Madam Bovary

07:45 Reflections 07:50 Waveguide

08:00 World News 08:09 24 Hours:

News Summary 08:30 Nature Note-

book 08:45 Recording of the Week

09:00 Newsweek 09:30 A Roof Over

Our Head 10:00 World News 10:09 24

Hours: News Summary 10:30 Half-

Hour Drama: The Red Shoes 11:00

World News 11:09 Reflections 11:15

Madam Bovary 12:00 World News

12:09 British Press Review 12:15 Good

Books 12:30 Financial News: Look

Ahead 12:45 Peaches' Choice 13:00

News Summary: A Roof Over Our

Heads 13:50 The Vintage Chart Show

14:00 World News 14:09 News About

Britain 14:15 Characters at Court 14:30

Album Time 15:00 Radio Newsweek

15:15 Brain of Britain 15:45 Sports

Round-up 16:00 World News 16:09 24

Hours: News Summary 16:30 Gold and

Silver 17:00 News Summary: Outlook

17:45 The Woman Who Rode Away

18:00 Radio Newsweek 18:15 A Roof

Over Our Heads 18:45 Proms Preview

19:00 World News 19:09 Commentary

19:15 The Editors 19:30 Soundbite

Brass 20:15 Trivia Test Match 20:30

New Ideas 20:40 Book Choice 20:50

Sports Round-up 21:00 Newsweek

22:30 Stock Market Report 24:00

24:30

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740,

11925 and 15210 Hz

05:00 News 05:10 Newsline 05:30 VOA

Morning 06:00 News 06:10 Newsline

06:30 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10

News 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00

News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA

Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Newsline

07:30 Music USA 10:00 News 10:10

Focus 10:30 Special English News &

Features 10:40 News 10:50 Newsline

10:30 Magazine Show 20:00 News

20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English

News & Features 21:00 News 21:10

Newsline 21:30 Music USA 23:00

News & Editorial 22:15 Music

USA Jazz 23:00 News 23:10 World

Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Paintings exhibition by Refat Al Hariri at the French Cultural Centre (until July 23)

* A photographic exhibition by Zohrab at the Royal Cultural Centre (until July 25)

* Photographs exhibition by Mustafa Al Ma'siyah at the Petra Bank Gallery — Wadi Saqra.

FEATURE FILM

* "On Golden Pond" at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.

SOVIET FILM WEEK

* Soviet film daily at 5:30 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre (until July 22).

LECTURE

* A lecture on the impact of modern development on traditional village life at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre of Oriental Research (ACOR).

JERASH FESTIVAL

(July 8-31)

Monday 20/7/87

9:11 — Orchestra. Folklore Group

* Sound & Light

8:9 — Children's Play Wadon Tree

* Artemis Steps

8:9 — Polish Puppet Theatre Troupe

9:30-11 — The Moroccan Al-Rabab

Andalusian Songs

* Forum:

6:7 — Jordan Armed Forces Band

7:30-9 — Local Folk Groups

9:11 — China Acrobatic Troupe

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267

American Centre .. 644371

American Centre library .. 641520

British Council .. 6361478

French Cultural Centre

637009

641993

644203

620409

639777

663195

667816

641793

664251

657111

Regent receives minister, representative from Sudan

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, conferred Sunday at the Royal Court with Mr. Fadiah Nasser, Sudanese minister of state for defence and Mr. Abdulrahman Muhammad Ahmad, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Sudanese constituent assembly.

They conveyed to the Crown Prince a message from Sudan's prime minister, Al Sadeq Al Mahdi, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, which did not disclose the contents of the message.

During the audience, Arab security and means of unifying Arab ranks were discussed, the agency said. Both sides reaffirmed the need for bolstering Jordanian-Sudanese relations.

The audience was attended by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, Army Chief-of-Staff Lt.-Gen. Fathi Ahn Taleb, and Sudan's ambassador to Jordan, Mahjoub Radwan.

Lt.-Gen. Abu Taleb had ear-

lier met with the Sudanese minister and Mr. Ahmad with whom he discussed cooperation between the armed forces of both countries.

The Sudanese minister arrived here Saturday evening for his visit, expected to last several days.

His visit comes four days after the return to Amman of the rapporteur of the Jordanian Committee for Solidarity with the Sudanese People.

Dr. Abdul Salam Al Abbadi, who is also under secretary of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, met with the Sudanese prime minister and other senior officials in Khartoum, during his visit. He toured facilities of the Jordanian health and agricultural teams assisting the drought and famine stricken regions of Sudan.

Dr. Abbadi discussed with Sudan means of developing its agricultural sector. He said that his committee will encourage Jordan and other countries to invest in Sudan.



Jordan remembers King Abdullah

AMMAN (Petra) — Today marks the 36th anniversary of the death of King Abdullah I bin al-Hussein, the founder of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. He was assassinated in 1951 while praying at the Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.

King Abdullah lived his life in service to the Arab Nation. He was born in Mecca in 1882. He lived and studied in Istanbul and was appointed by his father,

Sharif Hussein, as his adviser and assistant in 1908.

In 1916, following the outbreak of the Great Arab Revolt, King Abdullah was appointed leader of the Arab forces against the Ottoman forces in Tair. He led the successful siege of Medina.

Not only was the late King assigned military missions but he was also active alongside his father in negotiations with the allies following the end of the First

World War.

In 1921 King Abdullah came to Transjordan and established the Emirate of Transjordan which later became the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

King Abdullah led the Arab armies in defence of Arab Palestine against the Israeli invasion and was instrumental in unifying Arab ranks and stands and spent his life striving to reestablish Arab rights in Palestine.

Marj Al Hamam election tally published; police probe shooting

By Ahmad Kreishan
Special to the Jordan Times

MARJ AL HAMAM — Life was back to normal at Marj Al Hamam town Sunday following gun fight among local residents, resulting in 10 people being injured. The injured were being treated at King Hussein Medical City, and were reported to be doing well.

The shooting occurred following the closing of the polling centres, where at least 7,000 people cast ballots to elect an 11-member municipal council.

Police sources said that a quarrel broke out among supporters of three of the blocs running in the election. The quarrel then turned violent when the people began shooting at each other with hand guns. This prompted security forces to intervene. Police

investigations into the matter were still going on Sunday.

According to Mr. Mohammad Ali Al Amin, Amman governor, the voting went well; neither the voting nor the counting of votes which followed the election was affected by the incident.

Mr. Issa Mahmoud, district governor of Wadi Seer, who served as chairman of a committee supervising the voting, announced the results at dawn

Sunday. He said that the following candidates who belong to two out of three blocs, were the winners: Mohammad Nahar (1,871 votes), Saoud Khleif (1,831), Abdul Rahman Nabulsi (1,508), Dr. Walid Jaber (1,447), Mohammad Taher (1,404), Abdul Majid Jalamdeh (1,329), Abdul Rahim Mohammad Mifleh (1,316), Mohammad Marzouq (1,280), Abdul Rahim Jamain (1,265), Farouk Murad (1,258) and Mohammad Mithqal Al Assaf (1,236).

The district governor said that 70.9 per cent of the total number of eligible voters took part in the election, the second of its kind in the town. The first, he said, was held in 1983 when the municipal council grouped only nine members. Altogether 32 candidates representing the three blocs ran for Saturday's election.

Contract signed in Zarqa River basin project

AMMAN (J.T.) — The JD 32.1 million Zarqa River basin project is moving ahead with the signing of the first of its consultancy contracts, according to the Middle East Business Intelligence magazine.

The seven-year project to combat soil erosion, introduce safe land use measures and improve farming techniques is a first in the Middle East. Its three sub-projects will cover farm development, forest development, drought reserves and river bank protection.

A joint venture between SAGRIC International (Australia) and the local Jouzy and Partners now has a JD 2.8 million contract for consultancy work on the farm sub-project. They will be using an approach used previously only in Australia under which farm-by-farm studies are carried out to establish sustainable land use.

The project is being funded by the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (JD 8.5 million), Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (JD 6.1 million), Saudi Fund for Development (JD 3.4 million), Islamic Development Bank (JD 2 million). The government will provide JD 5.9 million, West Germany JD 2.2 million. Participating farmers will provide the remaining JD 4 million.

Regulations revised for income tax statement

AMMAN (Petra) — The Official Gazette published Sunday amendments to the 1985 income tax regulations.

The amendments require every citizen in the private or public sector to submit a statement about his or her income to the Income Tax Department if his or her monthly salary exceeds JD 100, if unmarried, or JD 200, if married.

The statement should give particulars about the employee's income during 1986 and should be submitted within the permitted period of time, according to the

gazette. The following categories are exempted from submitting an income tax statement:

— Employees and workers who draw income from one source only.

— Citizens who own or operate only one vehicle and draw income from that vehicle alone.

— People who work in trade but whose capital is estimated to be less than JD 1,000.

According to the gazette, income tax regulations are continually being revised.

5 health centres opened

IRBID (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh opened Sunday five health centres at Dokara, Beit Yaffa, Deir Al Sa'neh, Beit Eides, and Kufir Abil in Irbid Governorate.

Later, he visited the Deir Abi Sa'id health centre and inspected its services. The minister announced that the Deir Abi Sa'id centre will be enlarged to

offer emergency services and include specialists' clinics.

The minister also announced that the health ministry will open a training centre for midwives and nursing colleges in Irbid and Zarqa later this year.

The minister was accompanied on the tour by Mr. Akram Al Nasser, Irbid's governor, and other officials.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Travellers to West Bank asked to delay

AMMAN (Petra) — The Public Security Department (PSD) advised travellers to the West Bank who registered to cross today not to go to the bridges unless absolutely necessary. This is due to the recent Israeli measures cutting the number permitted to cross in half. The department sources added that arrangements will be made soon to solve this problem.

Chinese acrobats to perform at Sports City

AMMAN (Petra) — The Chinese acrobatic troupe will perform at the Palace of Culture in Al Hussein Sports City this coming Friday and Sunday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein. This is at the invitation of the General Federation of Jordanian Women to support the federation's projects and activities.

CDD brings 2 fires under control

ZARQA (Petra) — The Civil Defence Department (CDD) personnel brought under control a fire which broke out Sunday in a restaurant on the Azraq crossroad. There were no casualties reported but the contents of the restaurant were destroyed. The CDD personnel also brought under control a fire which broke out in a house in Al Ghweirib area in Zarqa. Nobody was hurt but the house sustained heavy damages.

25 pharmacies to remain open 24 hours

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Pharmacists Association (JPA) has appointed 25 pharmacies throughout the country to offer 24 hours a day service to the public. JPA President Tayseer Al Hems announced Sunday.

Ministry to distribute school books to stores

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Education is to sell secondary stage students textbooks at fixed prices through accredited bookshops; it will make sure that no manipulation of these arrangements occurs, Raddi Al Waqfi, under secretary of the Ministry of Education, announced Sunday.

Addressing a meeting of the committee responsible for providing the books, Dr. Waqfi said that various education departments in country's provinces will be supplied with books on all subjects. The departments will sell the books to the bookshops whose owners will have to pay for them in advance.

Each education director will authorise bookshops in his province to sell the books to the students and to ensure that book-

sellers abide by ministry regulations, Dr. Waqfi added.

He said that the bookshops will be allowed to make up to 10 per cent profit, but will not be allowed to make photocopies of the books and sell them to the students. Each bookshop will be issued at least 1,000 copies of each textbook required for secondary education, Dr. Waqfi added.

The Ministry of Education last week announced that it will continue to provide students of the preparatory stage with their textbooks free of charge.

Tawjihi results to be announced

The ministry is scheduled to announce the results of the taw-

jithi examinations taken last month by some 60,000 male and female students.

The results will be made public by Dr. Waqfi and the lists of names and their results will be distributed later to the various schools, according to a ministry announcement issued Sunday.

According to Dr. Waqfi, the results of the secondary stage admission examinations, which took place at the same time last month, will be known by Aug. 3. Nearly 50,000 male and female students took the admission examination which will determine which educational streams they will be allowed into.

The results of the admission and the tawjihi examinations are normally announced before the start of academic year.

Bulgaria voices support for peace conference

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Ganev denied reports of direct contacts between Bulgaria and Israel despite the absence of diplomatic links, and said that any talks which could have taken place between the two countries would have been "humanitarian or technical in nature, regarding Russian churches in Israel and the situation of Bulgarian Jews living in Israel."

"We cut our relations with Israel for the Arabs and we will only renew relations only for the Arabs," he said. Bulgaria severed diplomatic relations with Israel during the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

On Bulgaria's position towards the Iran-Iraq conflict, Mr. Ganev said that the Gulf war was an "irrational war" since it serves only those parties interested in continuing it for their own purposes. Mr. Ganev cited Israel as the main benefactor of the Gulf war since the war "delays Arab unity and consequently delays Arab efforts towards solving the Middle East problem."

Mr. Ganev said that the Gulf war would also serve those powers interested in strengthening their military power in the area. Mr. Ganev reiterated his country's support for measures and resolutions adopted by the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Arab League and the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) towards stopping the Iran-Iraq war.

"We support the (Soviet) proposal for the removal of all military ships from the Arab Gulf, since

we feel that the Iran-Iraq conflict should not directly affect navigation in the area," Mr. Ganev said. Bulgaria is against "military ships escorting tankers in the Gulf," he said. "It is very dangerous."

In reply to a question on relations between Turkey and Bulgaria, Mr. Ganev said that "for some time now, the relationship between Bulgaria and Turkey had been frozen." He said Bulgaria would work towards establishing better relations with Turkey but only on the basis of "mutual respect, and non-interference in internal issues of each country," he said.

On contentions that Bulgaria's alleged ill-treatment of Muslims has a direct bearing on Sofia's "frozen relations" with Ankara, Mr. Ganev said: "Although Bulgaria is not a Muslim country it does give equal religious rights to all religions."

According to Mr. Ganev, there is no truth to allegations that Turkish-Bulgarian differences stemmed from religion. He charged that Turkey was using this concept as a "curtain to hide its real intentions which are a continuation of the Ottoman empire's intentions."

Mr. Ganev arrived here on Saturday on an official visit. He held talks on Sunday with Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Khayyat on the situation of Muslims in Bulgaria and agreed that they were not being treated and that the Bulgarian government does not interfere

with their Islamic practices, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

At his press conference, Mr. Ganev said Jordan's trade exchange with Bulgaria had reached \$20 million and it was expected to reach \$40 million by the end of this year. Jordan exported goods worth \$11.5 million and imported from Bulgaria goods worth \$8.5 million in the first half of 1987, he said.

Mr. Ganev also met on Sunday with Mr. Nabih Al Nimer, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry. Petra said they agreed to explore possibilities for further promoting Jordanian-Bulgarian cooperation in economic and cultural fields and prospects for increasing the volume of bilateral trade.

Paris and Tehran holding talks

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Musavi said Sunday: "The French showed at the outset that they have arrogant characteristics in blocking a number of diplomats at their frontiers."

"Our embassy was cordoned off in a very fierce and brutal manner, and in an insolent way," he said.

Mr. Musavi said Pakistan would represent Iran's interests in France. The French have already announced that Italy will take care of their interests in Iran.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.
Established 1975

الجزيرة الأردنية السياسية اليومية
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Blackmail from the right

THE ultimatum issued by the extreme right Tehiya Party to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to either increase Jewish settlements in the occupied territories or face an early general election is blackmail par excellence that could succeed. To be sure, the Tehiya Party leadership is offering an even worse face-saving formula to Shamir, i.e., to accept a new right-wing coalition government to replace the existing uneasy coalition between the Likud bloc and the Labour Party, in which case the price would still be the same or worse.

Thus the threat by the Tehiya Party to force an unholy alliance with Shimon Peres's Labour Party and call for an early national election is only intended to extricate from the Likud bloc further "improvement" in the volume and dimension of Israeli settlements in the West Bank. Shamir offered last Friday to build two new Jewish settlements in the West Bank in order to appease Tehiya politicians. The last for more and more Jewish settlements on Arab lands appears unsatisfactory. It is therefore unlikely that the Tehiya Party and like-minded Israeli parties would be happy with biting the two settlements bait and accepting them as final word on the subject. The Tehiya Party knows only too well that their five Knesset seats could tip the scales and that the future of the existing "national unity" government could hang in the balance as they continue to apply pressure on Shamir and exploit his preference to maintain the political status quo in Israeli politics and avoid early elections. Yet avoiding early national elections for Shamir is tantamount to avoiding the projected international peace conference on the Palestinian conflict, the thought of which the Likud bloc and other extreme right-wing parties dread and would fight the bitter end. Indeed, Shamir has also threatened to dismiss all the Labour Party ministers in the cabinet if he is pressed too much by Peres over the conference idea and to replace them by Tehiya politicians should matters come to a head in the on-going struggle for power. Shamir has cautioned his opponent Peres in so many words not to rock the boat too much or else his own foreign ministry portfolio would be given to David Levy, a key member in the Likud bloc whose political ambitions could take him up to the premiership post in no time.

The upshot of these events in Israel is that the right-wing bloc in Israel is prepared to fight till the bitter end against the international peace conference idea in spite of the fact that some 400,000 Israelis have signed up in support of the conference. In the final analysis, it is the Israeli people who could tip the scales one way or another over the issue of holding an effective international conference. As long as there is no clear consensus in Israel on the issue of peace with the Arab parties, the chances for a successful conference are doomed from the start. It must be remembered at all times that holding the conference is not by itself the means and the grand finale that we are all waiting for in the Middle East. The conference cannot be more than the avenue or vehicle for an honourable and durable peace between the two sides. The real objective has to be the successful peace conference where just and permanent peace terms can be arrived at.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: America's interests

ONE can easily perceive Israel's involvement in the Iran-Iraq affair by hearing John Poindecker's testimony before a congressional committee in Washington. The testimony bears witness to the fact that Israel had all along directed Washington in its action with regard to the sale of arms to Iran and U.S. policies towards the Middle East. In fact, Israel still influences America's policies in all that has to do with the Jewish state and its neighbouring states and Washington continues to oblige, and respond favourably to all Israel's requests even though such action might harm U.S. interests. The Iran arms scandal has no doubt complicated the Gulf conflict and made it difficult for Washington to pursue its declared policy of trying to end the war. Further complications in the war is bound to serve Israel's interests, and the American public should be made aware of such danger which was explicitly put to them through Poindecker's testimony. The American people should realise that Israel is trying to achieve its own objectives by all evil means, and at the expense of any country's interests. The American people should take lessons from this scandal, keep control on U.S. policies in the Middle East from now on and prevent Israel from pursuing its sabotage activity that has harmed America's credibility. Poindecker's testimony indicates that the United States is now in need of national heroes like Eisenhower who can place their nation's interests above all other considerations, and are not afraid of Israel's blackmail.

Al Dustour: Moscow wants war ended

IRAN'S foreign minister who visited Moscow lately heard Soviet views about the need for stopping the war with Iraq and preventing the Americans from maintaining their naval forces in the Gulf zone. The Soviets made it clear that they want an end to the conflict as soon as possible and that they oppose Tehran's adamant position and persistence to continue the fighting, because Moscow does not want to see foreign powers trying to gain a foothold in the region. Moscow has warned Iran of the danger of escalating the fighting and said that Tehran would bear all responsibility for the consequences. This Soviet warning coincides with current efforts to issue a United Nations Security Council resolution calling for an end to the war and for peaceful negotiations. We hope that such resolution will materialise, and that the current diplomatic crisis between Paris and Tehran will not stand in the way of this resolution. Perhaps the expected council resolution would usher in the initial and necessary steps for the beginning of the end of the seven year old conflict that has caused so much damage to the interests of Iran and the Arab Nation, and to world peace.

Sawt Al Shaab: Maggie campaigns for peace

THE latest escalation in tension throughout the Middle East and the Gulf zone has driven British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to take up the issue with President Reagan during her short stop in Washington last week. Mrs. Thatcher believes that the proposed international Middle East peace conference presents the best chance for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict. She believes that no time should be wasted and efforts should be launched in bringing about peace to the Middle East region. She also believes that international endeavours must be made to put an end to the conflict in the Gulf region because of its adverse effects on world peace. The British prime minister discussed these issues with the U.S. president after realising that they are of grave danger to world peace and stability, and that major powers should take steps to find solutions. The Arab countries are deeply satisfied with Mrs. Thatcher's stand with regard to the middle East problem, and hope that the international community will now embark on steps that would lead to peace.

Don't abandon the Arab League, go through it

By Dr. Waleed Sadi

THE announcement by Morocco last week that it would like to become a member of the European Community and that it sees its future in Europe is clearly a bad reflection on the Arab League system as a whole. For an important Arab country as Morocco to seemingly forsake the Arab League and place its trust and confidence in the European Community rather than in its association with the national Arab organisation, the Arab League, bodes ill for the cause of Arabism and Arab coordination and cooperation. One is forced to conclude from the Moroccan futuristic plans that there is something basically and organically amiss in the general Arab state of affairs and the political offspring of the Arab World, the Arab League system. Morocco is not the first Arab country to seek other avenues or fora to express and satisfy its aspirations and objectives and surely it will not be the last to do so outside the existing Arab umbrellas. In other sub-regions of the Arab World, we have already become witness to the rise of prominence and relevancy of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) in the Arab Gulf region. And there is no denying that the GCC is functioning very well in addressing the issues and objectives posed by its Arab members; and that its birth and zenith are directly attributable to the failures of the Arab League system in general. It goes without saying that the GCC came to being to fill an urgent vacuum left by the Arab League system and to address pressing problems and challenges left unresolved by existing general inter-Arab associations.

If the Arab League system is ill and not functioning well there is no doubt that the fault lies first and foremost with the Arab governments which have forsaken their collective association towards it for so long. The systematic denial of a clean bill of health to the Arab League by the Arab countries has clearly rendered it in due course irrelevant to the individual and collective Arab countries interests and welfare and forced some Arab countries to seek alternate ways and means to address their issues and

problems. That the political and economic significance of the Arab League system to its member states has deteriorated and receded considerably over the past few years to the advantage of other organisations or arrangements is beyond doubt. It is a cardinal principle in natural law whether in organic or inorganic life, that if an organ, a priori an organisation, is not sufficiently or properly used, it would in due course atrophy and another organ or organisation takes its place and assume its role and function. This is perhaps the main lesson to be learned from the Moroccan decision to seek membership in the European Community and determine that its future lies squarely in the European Community's political and economic market rather than with the Arab League associations.

All true Arab nationalists would have preferred that the Arab countries have their own common market or economic union, not only by words and letters but rather by words, letters and deeds concurrently. There is no legitimate reason or cause to continue denying the Arab peoples and countries a well functioning and efficient economic market at least on par with the European Community market which has served well and in a coordinated manner the conflicting interests of varied nationalities in Europe. We the Arabs used to blame colonialism, neo-colonialism, imperialism and God knows what for frustrating our collective Arab cooperation and unity and for preventing us from forging ahead with our economic union as a prelude to other manifestations of Arab coordination and unity. But to continue to uphold such propositions is preposterous and outrageous. With the Arab countries blessed with independence and complementary natural resources, they constitute the almost perfect combination of states to enjoy an operational common market which could be the envy of other existing common markets in other regions of the world.

As an antidote to perpetual inter-Arab disarray, one would hasten to suggest that the Arab League system should undergo a rapid

process of overhauling and revamping through, first, the expression and implementation of inter-Arab political and economic wills; and second, by reforming the internal infrastructure of the Arab League system. In this vein, one can hardly envision a thorough reform of the League structure without a meaningful review of the Charter of the Arab League at a well-prepared-for Arab summit conference. Since its inception and the adoption of its Charter, the Arab League system was left to drift astray without the benefit of periodic review of its constitution and direction. Over the years, the League had lost much of its dynamism and ability to lead the Arab World. But it continues to have the capacity to introduce innovative ideas and plans for the Arab World to reflect on and perhaps adopt. It also has the potential to provide the Arab World with the kind of leadership which could stimulate and activate inter-Arab actions on many level and in many dimensions. The Arab League can still do a lot to recapture and regain Arab faith and trust on the governmental as well as on the peoples levels. With the benefit of a two-pronged approach, one from within and the other from the outside, much could still be done to rectify considerably the Arab state of affairs and to woo again the faith and interest of all the Arab governments including Morocco. Should the Arab governments succeed in having more confidence in one another, through a series of confidence-building measures, perhaps then the Arab countries in en masse and through their own viable and operational common market can enter into arrangements or associations with other common markets as the one already existing among the European Community with a view to further develop and consolidate their collective interests regionally and internationally. The day will surely arrive when the Arab governments will be all lured back to the Arab fold under the Arab League umbrella. To be sure much work needs to be done towards that hoochie objective, and that will be realised sooner or later as long as Arabism still flows in the veins of our future generations.

Western countries plot to oust FAO chief

By Robert Little

LONDON — A cold, calculated conspiracy by a number of mainly Western nations, headed by Britain, Canada and Scandinavian countries, is being engineered in Rome to try to oust one of the United Nations' most successful top agency chiefs, Dr. Edouard Saouma, director general of the powerful Food and Agriculture Organisation.

Lebanese-born Dr. Saouma, who has headed the organisation for 12 years, looks like becoming the catalyst for one of the bitterest struggles between Eastern and Western member nations for the future policy direction of one of the U.N.'s major influential agencies.

Many Near and Far Eastern countries are still enraged at the American-inspired Western campaign that was largely instrumental in influencing the decision of Amadon Mabtar M'Bow, director general of UN-ESCO, to step down later this year after 12 years as head of the Paris-based agency.

The group known to be involved in this cynical manoeuvring against Dr. Saouma consists of Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, West Germany, Japan, The Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and Britain. Although it is understood that not all of the members of this group have so far committed themselves 100 per cent against Dr. Saouma, most have.

In line with the U.N.'s constitution, Dr. Saouma is due to seek re-election for a third six-year term this November. He is already understood to have the support of a majority of the FAO's member states, including overwhelming support among Arab League members.

But as the executive council of the FAO assembled in Rome at the end of last month for its main meeting of the year, the Western group revealed their aim and were reported to be lobbying hard for their alternative chosen candidate, Moise Mensah of Benin.

Before this meeting Britain had already made public its opposition to a third term for Dr. Saouma. In a speech before last month's general election, Mrs. Thatcher's minister for overseas development Christopher Patten, let it be known that Britain would be backing Mensah, whom he described as an "excellent candidate."

However, when challenged to give reasons for Britain's opposition to the re-election of Dr. Saouma, Overseas Development Office officials in London offered only guarded criticism of the FAO chief, suggesting that perhaps the agency "needs a change in management style." It is a preferred policy of many countries, they say, that heads of U.N. agencies should not serve more than two terms.

Last month in Rome, however, some Western countries were being less inhibited. Circulating among selected diplomats and officials was a transcript of a broadcast statement by Robert Salery, who was Canada's permanent representative to the FAO between 1982 and 1986. In a Canadian Broadcasting Corporation TV documentary in November last year Salery had declared that Dr. Saouma runs "a reign of terror" at FAO.

Coupled with this remark, Maurice Strong, who organised the Stockholm Environment Conference in 1972 and later served as executive director of the U.N. environment programme, said on the CBC documentary that the FAO chief



Edouard Saouma

"practices coercive tactics to get his way." He went on to accuse Dr. Saouma of "elevating ward (municipal) politics to the global level."

In a similarly snide and patronising remark a former Canadian minister of agriculture, Eugene Whelan, suggested that "any similarity between what we know as a democratic country and running the FAO is purely coincidental."

It is known that the so-called "Western Group" of 11 countries has met three times in the past year to discuss how they believe the FAO should be "encouraged" to develop in future. Because some countries, for diplomatic reasons, were anxious not to publicise the meetings, the first took place clandestinely at a luxury hotel near Canterbury, Surrey (outside London).

Since then two further meetings have been held, in The Hague (Holland) and in Copenhagen (Denmark). And even at this stage not all countries participating are convinced of the wisdom of polarising the selection of U.N. officials along an East-West divide.

In their discussions the group is understood to have reached common agreement that the FAO's principal function should be as a development agency for the Third World. It should be prepared to offer forceful advice about agricultural policies, "not simply treat developing countries with kid gloves."

The group claims it is also calling for "a demonstrably open environment for issue-raising, negotiating and decision-making among member states which would lead to genuine consensus," and for an effort to implement "modern managerial systems in the FAO, notably in the areas of financial control and personnel administration."

Some Western officials in Rome complain that under Dr. Saouma the FAO has placed too much emphasis on food aid — which, they allege, can often damage agricultural production by depressing food prices and removing incentives for farmers — and too little on the development of "proper policies" for developing countries.

Nevertheless, it would appear that at this juncture they are not optimistic of replacing Dr. Saouma with Mensah, which had led to the need for a campaign of intensive lobbying. Mensah, they believe, who is an assistant president of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, has the advantage of being the favoured candidate of the Organisation of African Unity. There is expected to be a third candidate, from Colombia, but he is not expected to gain much support.

So far Dr. Saouma has not responded to the Canadian's personal abuse and other rash criticism nor to the campaign to prevent him winning a third term. — Arab News.

Brazil debates new constitution

By Jorge Medeiros
The Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil — Five months after starting its labours, Brazil's Congress still is struggling to write a new constitution.

The 559-member, two-house legislature, sitting simultaneously as a constitutional convention, is finding that in the democratic debate allowed under Brazil's 2-year-old civilian administration, nearly everyone is demanding their views be included.

The legislators want to rewrite the existing authoritarian constitution issued by decree under the military government that ruled Latin America's largest nation from 1964-1985. But the result so far has been a lot of confusion.

One of the key points of contention is whether the presidential rule should be replaced with a prime minister form of government. Others include regulation of foreign capital and investment, land reform, capital punishment, use of nuclear energy and the role of the armed forces.

"What we have is a pile of contradictory suggestions," representative Bernardo Cabral, coordinator of the project, said in July as he presented the first draft of the new charter, a 4-foot-high (1.2-m) stack of paper comprised of 501 articles and 5,600 amendments.

President Jose Sarney hopes the new constitution — the eighth since Brazil gained independence from Portugal in 1822 — will be ready by Nov. 15. That is a national holiday and the anniversary of the date in 1889 on which Brazil switched from a monarchy to a republic.

The draft now goes to floor

debate, and there is hope that the congressmen-convention members, who were freely elected last year and range from supporters of the former military government to Communists, can put the charter into a more manageable form.

But heated debate is expected over key provisions that will determine the overall structure of government in this country of 141 million people.

"The first battle is over. Now the real war begins," Cabral said. Here are examples of major issues:

— President or prime minister? The assembly will decide if Brazil keeps its U.S.-style presidential form of government or adopts a European-type parliamentary system with a prime minister.

— Land reform. This has been a bitterly contested issue since colonial times. Sarney has pledged to distribute 88 million acres of unproductive land among

1.4 million peasant families in four years. The project largely has been blocked by powerful landowners. The right-wing Democratic Rural Union, representing ranchers and landowners, recently staged a 20,000-strong demonstration opposing land reform in the constitution.

— Nuclear energy. Leading scientists want the new constitution to stipulate that Brazil will use nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes. The country has one civilian nuclear reactor and is building two others. But prominent physicist Jose Goldemberg has alleged that the armed forces are running a "parallel" nuclear programme to build a nuclear-powered submarine and an atomic bomb.

— Capital punishment. Some legislators have proposed reinstating the death penalty. The maximum sentence now is 30 years in prison.

— The armed forces. One proposal would limit the military's role to defence of national territory. Its sponsors fear that widening those duties to include guaranteeing law and order could leave the door open for another military coup.

Special-interest and lobby groups — including feminists, blacks, homosexuals, AIDS victims, Evangelical Protestants, pharmaceutical makers and ship owners — also are pressuring constitutional convention members to include articles and amendments in their favour.

Further complicating the debate is a provision, supported by intellectuals and artists, to allow "popular amendments." Each proposal would have to be signed by 30,000 voters, and an "ordinary citizen" then could argue the position before the full assembly.



S.Korean journalists press for more freedom

By David Thurber
The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — After years of press restrictions, South Korean journalists say they are struggling to ensure that a pledge by President Chun Doo-Hwan to allow freedom of the press will result in real change.

Government agents regularly visit newspapers and broadcasting stations to monitor news coverage and supply news "guidelines," say reporters and editors.

The government says the guidelines are merely requests for press cooperation and do not constitute censorship. But over the years, editors and reporters have been called or taken in for questioning by authorities over their adherence to the guidelines.

In recent months, however, several major newspapers have begun to refuse to comply with some government guidelines, editors and reporters say.

On July 1, after weeks of nationwide anti-government demonstrations, President Chun announced he would accept opposition demands for sweeping democratic reforms, including freedom of the press.

Local press coverage of the demonstrations has been extensive, in contrast with the past, when anti-government protests often received little mention in the media.

Editors and reporters said stronger demands by journalists for a free press were part of the reason for the change.

In May, several hundred younger journalists at five major newspapers began protesting press restrictions, a senior editor said. At three papers, reporters posted signs in newsrooms warning government agents to stay away, he said.

Because of the atmosphere in

the newsrooms, agents have been unable to visit the three newspapers, and have resorted to contacting staff members by telephone, the senior editor said.

Like many journalists interviewed for this story, the editor spoke on condition he not be identified by name.

Last fall, a dissident group called the Council for Democratic Press Movement printed what it said were the daily press guidelines issued by the government, from October 1985 to August 1986. The guidelines gave directions for what stories to use or not use, where they should be displayed and how long they should be, they said.

One guideline advised against political display of stories about the head of the Korean Roman Catholic church, Cardinal Stephen Su-Hwan Kim, who was calling for a revision of the constitution, they said.

A copy editor at the Hankook Ilbo newspaper, Kim Joo-Eun, received a suspended sentence after being arrested along with two Council for Democratic Press Movement members for having released the guidelines.

"The guidelines are a means of government suppression of the press," Kim said in an interview. "So I thought I must reveal them to the people."

Recent government guidelines have included directions on how to handle stories and pictures of opposition leader Kim Dae-Jung, the senior editor said.

However, coverage of Kim has increased since he was granted an amnesty July 9 for a 1980 sedition conviction.

Smaller changes also have occurred at KBS, the state-run television network. In June, it

began including some opposition politicians in its discussion programmes.

Last year, church groups led a campaign for more balanced news coverage. Christians have been active in the Movement for Democratic Reform.

"Print (journalism) is enjoying relative freedom, but broadcast is not," said the Rev. Kim Kwan-Suk, head of the Christian Broadcasting System (CBS). "We're trying to get the government to lift all its controls on broadcast."

CBS, the country's only independent radio network, was prohibited from broadcasting news programmes and advertisements in a government media reorganisation after Chun seized power in 1980.

In that reorganisation conducted under martial law, several newspapers and magazines were closed and all television and radio stations, with the exception of CBS, were merged into KBS and Munhwa Broadcasting Corp., of which KBS is a major stockholder.

The country's two main news agencies were combined into one agency, Yonhap, which is the only news medium allowed to have regional news bureaus and subscribe to foreign news agencies.

The government also has banned about 1,000 books, according to the Korean Publishers Association.

The dissident Council for Democratic Press Movement says about 700 journalists lost their jobs by government order or because of the closure of their newspapers during the 1980 reorganisation.

Formal press censorship was lifted in January 1981 with the end of martial law, but critics charge the current basic press law

continues to restrict press freedom. Particularly objectionable, they say, is its requirement that all periodicals be licensed by the government, which they say allows authorities to ban publications they dislike.

Government officials say they are discussing a revision of the law as a result of Chun's promise of press freedom.

Asked about the changes, a ministry of culture and information official provided a statement, saying, "the government is well aware that some have been voicing criticism that the law has impeded the development of the media and even restricted the freedom of the press in Korea. It is considered that such criticisms reflect the fact that the working relationship between the government and the press has been somewhat awkward."

It said that as a result of the discussions, "freedom of the press, as perceived by the news media, will be expanded in substance as well as in name."

Journalists have mixed reactions to the government's promise.

An editorial writer at a major newspaper warned that journalists need to be cautious now in their reporting so as not to jeopardise the chance for reform.

"The press should oversee changes on a gradual basis and let the government have time to adjust to the changing situation," he said in an interview.

But Kim Tae-Hong, a Council for Democratic Press Movement leader who was among those arrested for releasing government press guidelines, said reporters would have to fight for press freedom.

"Freedom of the press is the most important freedom, so this government will not easily give it to the people," he said.

Japan puts mind to building 'intelligent' cities

By Maggie Jackson
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Kotaro Kitamura sits behind a worn wooden desk in an office cooled by an electric fan and plans the high-tech cities of tomorrow.

The proposals range from computer-linked road sensors that will alert drivers to congestion via special radio channels or signboards, to regions where residents may shop, balance bank accounts or pay utility bills at their home computers.

"We hope to be a leader in world urban design," Kitamura, director of the ministry of construction's city bureau, said in a recent interview. "In the future, it will be necessary to add a 'brain and nervous system' to conventional urban infrastructures."

In March, the ministry declared 22 Japanese cities future "intelligent cities," a project the government says is unprecedented worldwide in its scope. Tokyo also begins work next year on a complex in Tokyo Bay that will be Japan's largest "intelligent" venture.

"Intelligent" buildings have become common in the 1980s since their advent in the United States, with most seeking to provide tenants with the latest communication, energy and other automated systems. But the concept of linking them with "intelligent" transport and communication networks is just emerging.

Some critics complain that smart structures are a gimmick to inflate building costs, but intelligent buildings have multiplied into an estimated 30-trillion-yen (206-billion-dollar) market in Japan.

One of the reasons is that the rebuilding of Japan's cities, particularly Tokyo, after World War II, proceeded with survival more than planning in mind, Kitamura said.

The result was bland jumbles

of narrow winding roads, exposed telephone lines and other problems that belie the nation's reputation for technological wizardry.

Kitamura said ambulances and fire engines take 10 minutes on average to arrive in Tokyo, or more than double the optimum time, and the city has far less park space than the capitals of other developed nations.

Even many of Japan's offices remain out-of-date, plagued by poor lighting and other problems,

Kitamura said.

Fearful of the impact of growing populations on already-overtaxed city services, and eager to prepare for future information needs, the government hopes its programme will help solve such urban problems.

The 232,000 residents of Takasaki City, 96 kilometres north of Tokyo, plan to iron out their downtown congestion with "intelligent" improvements, said Minoru Tomita of the urban poli-

cy division.

Downtown Takasaki is near an express way, in a prefecture (state) which has three cars per family, the most of any nationwide. Its planned computerised traffic system will alert drivers to empty parking lots and tell people waiting curbside when their bus will arrive.

Merchants will be linked through a city computer and telephone network providing data ranging from gas and water con-

sumption to the weather, Tomita said.

Tokyo's own programme — separate from the 22-city project — calls for a 1.98-trillion-yen (13.6-billion-dollar) complex called teleport on 120 hectares (300 acres) of reclaimed land. It will provide 340 hectares (850 acres) of office and housing space for a target population of 10,000, Tokyo metropolitan officials say.

An artist's rendition of the project shows wide streets and plentiful parks between clusters of tall buildings topped by dish-shaped satellite antennas.

Teleport tenants will be able to tap into satellite data ranging from London stock market reports to disaster surveillance and security information at any hour, and communicate through teleport computers rather than conventional facsimile machines or telephones, said officials.

Kitamura and others said intelligent cities won't solve all Japan's urban ills, but that the projects will provide needed oases of improvement and needed urban homes and offices.

The government predicts that in the year 2000, 70 per cent of Japan's projected 130 million people will live in cities and that the country will need 230 hectares (575 acres) more office space.

By that time, the ministry expects 400 smart buildings to arise in the 22 intelligent cities, which range from the booming financial centre of Osaka to smaller, more rural towns.

By John Cumliff
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The smart house is coming, and early indications are that it will operate perfectly if it has a smart owner and even help out people who tend to be a bit forgetful.

As envisioned, the smart house will receive telephoned instructions, such as to turn on the oven, alert the homeowner to smoke or fire problems, and turn off lights when a person leaves the room. It may be able to protect children from some accidents.

The smart house is being developed by the National Association of Home Builders and its associate NABH Foundation, now in the laboratory stage, it might be demonstrated in late 1989 and made commercially available soon after.

The smart house is coming

If it turns out as planned, a microchip in each smart-house device and appliance will identify what is being plugged into any outlet, as well as the specific amount of current needed for its operation.

Only after this identification is made can the device receive current. Thus, a baby sticking a finger into a smart-house outlet would not be harmed because its finger is not an authorised device. It can, for example, be instructed not to provide power to an electric guitar plugged into a bathroom outlet.

Even if such an instruction weren't given, a teen-ager trying to play that guitar in the shower would be protected, because any deviation from the power level the system has been instructed to receive will trip the circuit.

The smart house also seeks elegance. Stereo speakers can be

plugged into any outlet in the house without additional wiring. A stereo receiver in the living room can provide music in the bedroom or the basement.

Any smart-house device can operate in any outlet, which means the residents could unplug the stereo speaker, plug in a telephone and immediately make a call.

Through a video display it can also give warnings that the refrigerator door is open, an oven was unintentionally left on or a front door was left unlocked.

All smart-house devices can be given instructions from a control panel placed anywhere in the house. Thus, a panel in the bedroom can be instructed to provide wake-up music, raise the heat and get the coffee ready.

According to the foundation, the entire system will have the

capability of being controlled remotely from any distance simply by telephoning instructions to it.

All this will cost, of course. But if homebuyers are as smart as this house thinks they are, they will demand its services, thereby bringing down the cost via production volume.

The smart-house innovators have thought a lot about this project, but they haven't been able to overcome the obvious, which is what happens in a power outage. The nearest they have come to resolving the issue is to have the smart house switch to an alternate power source, if one is available.

While that might be viewed as a drawback by some homeowners, others might be reassured by the knowledge that if their house becomes too smart, they always can pull the plug on it.

Social security weathers the storm

ILO feature

FOR a decade the winds of economic and social change buffeted the social security systems of both developed and developing countries. One challenge followed another: oil crises, inflation, a lingering recession and high unemployment. Dire warnings were sounded that social security was unable to survive in such a climate.

Not so, says Jean-Pierre Dumont, Director of Research at the Centre national d'études supérieures de sécurité sociale in Paris, in a recent study undertaken at the request of the ILO to determine the impact of these economic upheavals on social security systems around the world. He finds that although there are some cracks in such pillars as sickness insurance, unemployment benefits and old age pensions, the main edifice remains fundamentally sound.

Based on responses to questionnaires and other research, the study details the trends and changes in social security during 1974-84 in 30 countries: 13 in Western Europe, seven in Africa, two in North America, three in Latin America, three in Eastern Europe and one each in Asia and the Middle East.

In the early years of this critical decade, the study notes that improvements and innovations rather than modifications dominated the social security scene. In 1974, for example, Cameroon set up an old age pension scheme and similar plans for old age and invalidity insurance were developed in Egypt, Pakistan, Sudan and Swaziland. Gabon instituted national social security benefits and Algeria extended health insurance to cover groups of workers previously excluded from receiving benefits.

During the early 1970s social benefits for the handicapped were introduced in Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Maternity leave was significantly extended in several countries including Austria, Denmark, France, Ireland and Sweden.

Improvements in unemployment benefits — such as the extension of coverage for additional categories of workers and extension of the maximum duration of benefits — became a priority target in most industrialised countries where the recession was tightening its grip. These included Austria, Belgium, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Portugal and Spain.

In the United States a series of temporary laws in the areas most severely hit by unemployment allowed for an extension of unemployment insurance from 26 to 32 weeks. An emergency law in 1974 set up assistance in unemployment benefits for agricultural workers, household help and others not covered by unemployment insurance.

Following the second oil shock in 1979, however, unemployment benefits were the first victim of the worsening economic conditions, at least in most of the industrialised countries, Mr. Dumont says.

Benefits were reduced almost everywhere and allocations were further diminished in certain categories, for example in Bel-

gium for unemployed workers who were not heads of households and in Luxembourg for those with a working spouse earning at least 2.5 times the minimum wage. In the Federal Republic of Germany a 1982 law reduced the maximum duration of benefits which varied according to how long the worker had contributed to social security.

Closely linked to the rising unemployment in Western industrialised countries was a trend toward early retirement. The United Kingdom introduced a "job release scheme" giving older

wage earners early retirement with full pension on the condition that they be replaced by unemployed workers.

Early retirement benefits based on various criteria — employment situation, sex, the number of years the potential retiree had contributed to national social security — were offered in Austria, Belgium and France. In some countries provisions were made or liberalised for early retirement by workers in particularly arduous jobs. In Greece specific occupations were identified including workers in nuclear

energy plants, forest workers, dishwashers and chief editors of provincial daily newspapers. Rarely, however, did any country impose an obligatory early retirement age.

Mr. Dumont points out the entirely different situation in Eastern Europe where older employees were encouraged to work beyond the usual age of retirement because of a labour shortage.

Health protection — that all-important arm of social security — became harder to maintain during the recession due to a

sharp rise in medical costs as more sophisticated techniques were developed.

In most industrialised countries modifications were made in health insurance benefits, especially after 1979. They included instituting a flat-rate rebate system, lowering proportional payments and revising the list of reimbursable medicines. Care was taken not to penalise the very young or old and those suffering from long or costly illnesses.

In sum, social security may have only gone through the first

phase of a much wider, more complex international storm, according to Mr. Dumont. It is likely to encounter new demographic, financial and monetary challenges in the years to come.

Countries like the Federal Republic of Germany and Sweden show that social and economic growth can go hand in hand but such examples remain as inconclusive as they are few. Greater international solidarity will undoubtedly be needed if social security is to be safeguarded and developed throughout the world.

German businessman becomes Jain, vows not to swat insects

By Lai Kwok Kin
Reuters

NEW DELHI — Markus Mosser, a 24-year-old West German, has taken a vow not to squash any insects under foot nor to swat mosquitoes biting him if he can help it.

In an elaborate ceremony in New Delhi last month, the Freiburg businessman became one of very few foreign converts to Jainism, a faith whose priests are easy to spot.

Such is their reverence for all animal life that they carry brooms to sweep the path before them of insects, and wear facemasks to avoid inhaling microscopic airborne creatures.

Through a handkerchief covering his mouth, Mosser solemnly intoned his vows and prostrated himself three times in an indoor stadium packed with hundreds of believers.

Jainism claims about four million followers, almost all of them in India.

Its priests say they would like to spread the faith further afield,

but this is difficult because of their vows to travel only on foot.

The priests say that Jainism, which has remained virtually unchanged since it began in India 2,500 years ago, promises reincarnation and salvation through the path set by its first prophets, known as Tirthankars.

They say their faith predates organised Hinduism, although the two religions share some of the same deities and beliefs.

Jains are divided into two sects, the Svetambaras (white clothed) and the Digambaras (sky-clad), whose priests go about completely naked because even clothes are deemed materialistic.

The trail, bespectacled Mosser belongs to the Terapanth, one of three main Svetambara sub-sects.

"I became interested in Jainism after reading about the life of Mahatma Gandhi. He was influenced by Jain principles of non-violence," Mosser told Reuters.

During the ceremony, he was given the name Saman Swayan Pragna (the knowledgeable one)

because he had read so much about Jainism. He said the name change symbolised the new life he would lead.

His vows, which are binding for three months, include abstaining from sex, not eating meat, limiting his possessions to three white tunics and studying English translations of Jain scriptures.

"I have some travellers' cheques but I won't use them for this period," Mosser said. "I also had a camera when I came to India but that was stolen."

At the end of the period Mosser will either return to West Germany as a lay Jain and spread the faith or join the priesthood, a prospect the knowledgeable one admitted he was not keen on.

Jain priests, numbering a few thousand, follow an austere routine.

They are initiated after having their hair plucked out by the roots and from then on subject themselves to hardships such as meditating under the baking summer sun, with temperatures reaching 48 degrees centigrade.

Turtles swam in U.S. desert 185 million years ago

By Warren E. Leary
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Researchers have found the 185 million-year-old remains of the oldest known ancestor to most modern turtles, a 12-inch (30-cm) long creature they say once swam in what is now the southwestern U.S. desert.

The find shows that the reptiles have evolved considerably despite an outward appearance similar to their modern descendants, scientists said.

The nearly complete fossil and parts of several other turtles are the oldest found anywhere in the world of cryptodiles, one of two major groups that comprise all modern turtles, said scientists from the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

The fossils were found on Navajo tribal lands in the southwestern U.S. state of Arizona during several years of field work. They push back the known record of cryptodiles by 45 million years and illustrate a very early evolutionary stage of modern turtles, scientists said.

Evidence at the site indicates it was aquatic at the time the turtle lived and that the creature probably was a swimmer, they said.

The main fossil, consisting of a complete shell and skull, is of a new species of turtle scientists named kayentachelys aprix, according to a report published in the July 17 issue of the journal Science.

"Turtles have often been cited as examples of 'living fossils,' a group that is structurally conservative throughout its history," the scientists said. "In fact, however, this viewpoint is erroneous."

Randa Habibi's Corner

Big brother, tell us please

MOST people must have heard about the pollution of water in west Amman. Many smelled and tasted it. This shocking fact was discovered by the people and not the authorities. With a strange smell and a brownish colour people knew something was wrong and that water coming down through taps was certainly not healthy.

People, who were taught all along that water is a colourless, tasteless and smell-free liquid, did not have to be scientifically sophisticated to tell that there was something wrong with the water. Confirmation came later from Water Authority officials who admitted that there was some pollution in the water, adding that the necessary measures were taken. In that case, it turned out, they meant more chlorine was added to water, and reserve tanks were cleaned. Meanwhile, some areas of Amman still suffer from "cloudy" and "smelly" water. People are worried about the consequences of this pollution on their children and themselves. How polluted is the water? Rumours say that the chemicals in the water, added to the chlorine, can cause dangerous diseases. Increased diarrhoea cases are being noticed, and adults are complaining of stomach aches from the fungus that is said to be causing the taste, colour and smell in water.

So what is really going on? Both men responsible for handling water in the country have resigned. Very few, if any, officials are willing to talk, which in turn allows room for rumours to mature and spread. People are worried, and they have every reason to be. But, people have the right to know or to be told what to do to avoid any damaging effects from the phenomena. So, would someone, please, tell us?

There is more than just Aida to music in Egypt

By Fouad Gawhari
Reuters

CAIRO — Filtering through the cacophony of a sweaty, crowded Cairo street come the graceful notes of a Beethoven fantasia, soothing pedestrians and angry motorists.

The music comes from the Al Gomhouria Theatre, Egypt's main concert hall, where the Cairo Symphony Orchestra is giving one of its regular performances to a capacity audience.

A few miles away, Japanese engineers and Egyptian workers are building a 27-million dollar arts centre to replace the old Cairo Opera House, burned to the ground in 1971.

Following gala performances last May of Giuseppe Verdi's Aida at the Luxor Temple, the setting for which it was written, another production of the opera is being prepared for September at Egypt's best-known tourist site, the Giza Pyramids. They may be landmarks on Egypt's musical scene.

But the musical tradition here, alongside Egypt's role as the leading Arab cultural centre, has a depth which the symphony orchestra illustrates.

Youssef Al Sisi, the orchestra's conductor, boasts that his 90-member troupe, soon to be increased to 130 players, is the best in Africa and the Middle East.

"The Cairo Symphony Orchestra is the only apparatus in the Arab World capable of giving recitals of world music and accompanying opera and ballet performances," he told Reuters.

Al Sisi, 52, said several Egyptian soloists had established reputations in other countries, citing pianists Ramzy Yassa and Moushira Issa, cellists Nagi Habashi and Kamal Salaheddin and violinists Kamal Al Shweikh and Mohammed Ezzedin Ismail.

The new opera house, entirely financed by Japan, is set to become Cairo's leading music centre after it opens next year.

Its main auditorium will have 1,300 seats and a smaller hall with 500. There is a 600-seat open-air theatre, an art gallery, a library and a museum.

Japanese diplomat Tadashi Uemura said he believed the seven-storey opera house would be the biggest in the Middle East. "It's a symbol of excellent ties between Egypt and Japan," he told Reuters.

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McCallum stuns Curry to retain WBA junior middleweight crown

LAS VEGAS, Nevada (Agencies) — Unbeaten Mike McCallum unleashed a devastating left hook that knocked former welterweight champion Donald Curry Cold in the fifth round Saturday night and retained his World Boxing Association (WBA) junior middleweight title.

The end of the fight came suddenly, a little more than a minute into the round, when McCallum followed a Curry combination with a savage left hook that put Curry flat on his back. Curry tried desperately to get up and managed to get onto one elbow by the count of eight, but was unable to rise any further as referee Richard Steele waved the fight to a conclusion at 1:14 of the fifth round.

McCallum, undefeated and until now unheralded, was behind on all cards through four rounds and had been jarred sharply in

three of them before he stopped fellow-American Curry Cold with shattering left hook to the head at 1:14 of the fifth.

It happened after Curry, a two-to-one pre-fight favourite, missed with a right to the head. McCallum responded with a show-stopping left he had lying in wait. That left hook, that's what we were practising," said Lou Duva, McCallum's manager, after the fight. "When Mike went to the body, Curry started dropping his right hand."

"We were waiting for it. It had to happen eventually. It was just

a matter of time. It wasn't a lucky punch."

The win boosted McCallum's record to 32 wins, won by knock-out, and was sure to raise the relatively unknown champion of a "junior" weight division into consideration as one of the best fighters in the sport.

The defence, his sixth since winning the title in October 1984, equals the record for successful defences by a 154-pound champion.

McCallum, a Jamaica-born resident of New York who says he will be 30 years old but is believed to be 32, was the longest reigning current champion in boxing entering the bout and now will be the longest reigning 154-pound champion in the history of the 25-year-old division.

The 25-year-old Curry, from Texas, received \$425,000 for the

fight. McCallum received \$475,000.

McCallum said he now wanted to move up to the middleweight division, a class in a state of flux since Sugar Ray Leonard defeated Marvellous Marvin Hagler in April and then retired.

"I think I've proved myself as a junior middleweight," he said. "I'd like to fight the winner of the (Thomas) Hearns and (Juan) Dominguez Roldan fight."

That bout, for the vacant WBC middleweight title, is set for October 29 in Las Vegas.

Curry, now 27-2 with 20 knock-outs, failed for the fourth straight time to show the form that earned him praise less than a year ago as the best fighter in the sport.

He had little to say after the fight. "I don't know what happened," he said. "I don't know what happened."

Japanese-British team wins race

GOTEMBA, Japan (AP) — A team made up of Kenneth Acheson of Britain and two Japanese, Kunimitsu Takahashi and Kazuo Mogi, drove their Porsche 962c to victory in a rain-shortened All Japan Fuji 500-mile Race Sunday.

The winning team sped 93 laps around the 4.441-kilometre (2.75-mile) Fuji Speedway Track at the foot of Mount Fuji in three hours, seven minutes, 03.321 seconds, at an average speed of 132.478 kilometres (82.136 miles) an hour.

The race was originally scheduled to last 500 miles (800 kms), but was shortened due to heavy rain.

Vern Schuppan of Australia and Keiichi Suzuki of Japan came in second place in 3:08.46.861 for 93 laps, also driving a Porsche 962c.

Sweden's Eje Elgh and American Ross Cheever, driving a Dome 87c Toyota, finished in third in 3:08.22.350 after covering 92 laps.



SOCCER DANCE: Syrian Juba's striker Iskan dar Romeo kicks the ball in Sunday's match but fails to score while Walid Qamsaraddin, Lebanese Ahryada Waladab's defender leaps in bid to block the shot. Both teams, playing in the third day of the Arab League Champions Championships, tied 2-2 (1-1). Champions Jordan, Al Faisal, will today take on the Palestine team at 6:00 p.m. at Amman Stadium (Photo by Abdullah Ayyoub).

Lee knocks out Collins to retain IBF title

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Lee Seung-Hoon of South Korea knocked out Philippine challenger Leon Collins in the fifth round of a scheduled 15-round title bout Sunday and retained his International Boxing Federation (IBF) junior featherweight championship.

Lee floored Collins with a flurry of lefts and rights to his body and jaw. The knockout officially came at one minute and 23 seconds into the fifth round at gymnasium in Pohang, southeast of Seoul.

The 27-year-old champ punished the challenger with left

straights to the jaw throughout the fight, except during the opening round, in which the two fought almost evenly. The Filipino, 22, was ranked seventh by the IBF.

Lee weighed in at 55.2 kilograms (121.6 pounds) and Collins at 55 kilograms (121.2 pounds).

This was Lee's second defence of the title which he won from Thailand's Prayusak Muangsurin with a ninth-round knock-out last January.

Lee now holds a record of 40 wins and six losses. It was Collins' third setback against 19 wins and four draws.

Tour de France cyclists pay anniversary homage to Simpson

CARPENTRAS, France (R) — The Tour de France on Sunday paid homage to British cyclist Tommy Simpson on the mountain climb where he died during the race 20 years ago.

Simpson collapsed on the sun-baked roads of Mont Ventoux during the 13th stage of the 1967 tour. He was dead on arrival at the hospital here, and world cycling mourned the miner's son from Nottinghamshire.

During Sunday's time-trial stage on the mountain, Simpson's widow Helen laid flowers at a memorial where he fell. She was accompanied by her husband Barry Hoban, who was Simpson's

teammate in the 1967 tour, and tour director Jacques Goddet.

The memorial stands a kilometre from the 1910-metre summit of the extinct volcano where temperatures on July 13, reached 54 degrees centigrade (130 Fahrenheit) a the tour riders climbed Ventoux.

Simpson, won a world title for his country in 1965, but dearly wanted to be the first Briton to win the Tour de France.

He was the first Englishman to wear the yellow jersey, the leader's colours, an it was his determination to do so again on that sad day in 1967.

Kriek, Saceanu advance to New Jersey championships finals

LIVINGSTON, New Jersey (AP) — Top-seed Johan Kriek and unseeded Christian Saceanu of West Germany advanced to the finals Saturday in the \$125,000 Volvo Tennis-New Jersey Championships at Newark Academy.

Kriek defeated unseeded Alex Antonitsch of Austria 6-3, 2-6, 6-4 in a semifinal marked by bitter words between the players at the net midway through the final set.

Saceanu, despite nine double faults, scored a service break in each set and beat Marc Flur, an unseeded former Duke University star from Durham, North Carolina, 6-3, 6-4.

The 19-year-old West German, coached by Boris Becker's former mentor, Gunther Bosch, reached his first Grand Prix final.

Antonitsch, angered by a line call, was hit with a warning for an obscenity in the first set and was warned for a time delay in the third set. In that set, the volatile Austrian continued a verbal battle with the chair umpire until Kriek shouted, "shut up."

"I told him to shut up because he was constantly on the umpire, and he was interrupting the flow of my game," said the 29-year-old Kriek, who will be seeking his first tournament title in two years.

Antonitsch, who upset third-seed Paul Anaconne in the second round, committed a double fault on the next point but managed to hold serve for 2-2 in the decisive set. Two games later, he double-faulted away the sixth game but got back on serve by breaking Kriek in the third game of the next set.

"He's young and he went for too many big serves in the last game," said Kriek, who won this tournament in 1984.

The South African-born player, now a U.S. citizen and Naples, Florida, resident, cruised to triple match point on a service return, a lob winner and a backhand cross-court passing shot.

Antonitsch fought off two of the match points before Kriek closed out the 97-minute match with another passing shot.

The loser was fined \$500 for the obscenity and another \$500 for abuse of equipment. In anger, he had picked up and dropped an electronic line caller.

"I think that I got too upset with the umpire and that it cost me in the end," Antonitsch explained. "I know that I will have to work on my temper if I want to get higher in the rankings." He is ranked number 118 compared to number 32 for Kriek, a former top 10 player.

Giant Yugoslav basketballers crush American university team in Zagreb

The World University Games end with Romanians sweeping 5 gold medals in rowing

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia (AP) — Yugoslavia crushed the United States 100-85 in the men's basketball final and Romania collected five rowing golds at the World University Games on Saturday.

The United States never had a chance against the taller Yugoslavs, who dominated the backboards.

Drazen Petrovic, rated Europe's best basketball player, scored 35 points for Yugoslavia, which was ahead from the start and had a 50-38 halftime lead. Spain overcame a 43-36 halftime deficit to edge Cuba 80-79 for the bronze medal.

The Romanians had four

women's and one men's gold in the rowing, dominating the finals together with Italy, which collected three men's golds.

The other rowing golds went to Holland, China, West Germany, East Germany, Poland and Bulgaria.

Li Kong Zhong took the men's platform diving with a total of 631.71 points, giving China a clean sweep of all golds in the Universiad diving.

Ten players scored for the American basketball team against Yugoslavia with Guard Mitch Richmond leading the team with 19 points.

"They are older, bigger and more experienced," said U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski of Duke University in discussing the Yugoslavs.

With their five wins in the rowing, Romania tied the Americans for golds at 20, both trailing the Soviet Union.

Italy held on to fourth place in golds, moving up to 11, followed by China with 9.

The Americans were highly favoured in several of the 13 track finals on Sunday, the last day of competition. They could match their gold total of 22 in Kobe, Japan, in 1985.

Wilander, Carlsson clash in final for 2nd straight week

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Top-seeded Mats Wilander came from behind in both sets and beat fellow Swede Joakim Nystrom, his partner in doubles, 6-4, 7-5 in the semifinals of the U.S. Clay Court Tennis Tournament.

Number 3-seed Kent Carlsson, also of Sweden, easily ousted number 10 Guillermo Perez-Roldan of Argentina 6-2, 6-2 in the second semifinal Saturday, setting up a rematch Sunday for the championship of the \$375,000 tournament at the Indianapolis Sports Centre.

"I'm going to try to play my own game and see how it goes. I'll see in the match if I have to change anything," said Carlsson, who lost to Wilander 7-6, 6-1 in the title match of the U.S. pro tourney at Boston last week.

"To play Mats, you have to work very hard. I'm just going to try to play deep. Then when he hits short balls, I have to get to the ball. It sounds easy, but when I get the chances I have to take them," he said.

Carlsson, ranked 11th in the world, had no trouble with the 17-year-old Perez-Roldan, only 43rd in the latest computer rankings.

"Every tournament, you have to work very hard," said Carlsson. "It was difficult at the beginning. Then after a while he started to miss more."

"It was my best match this week. I was moving much better and feeling more confident. But I still think I don't have a feel for the ball that well."

Perez-Roldan, who fell behind 5-1 in both sets, said playing Carlsson has a good experience for him.

"I am happy because this tournament is very, very important. When I arrived here, I didn't think I'd go to the semifinals," he said.

The match was the first between Carlsson and Perez-Roldan. The first semifinal marked Wilander's 12th career victory without a loss against the number 5-seed Nystrom, his close friend since childhood. Like many of the

previous 11 matches, it was close for a while.

"We're like brothers," said Wilander, seeking his fifth tourney title this year and the 26th of his career. "It's always hard to play someone you know, but in this case, we're a lot closer than that."

"When it was even or when I was leading, I was just playing without really thinking. When he's leading, I concentrate a little more."

Wilander jumped ahead 2-0 in the first set. But Nystrom broke serve twice and took the next four games before Wilander regained the momentum. Nystrom also led 4-3 in the second set and it was tied 5-5 before Wilander broke serve and held for the victory.

"I started out well, but I sort of knew that was how the match was going to be," said Wilander, who now has won 38 matches without a loss this year when he has won the first set. "Maybe I lost some concentration because I was playing so well. Then he started playing longer and deeper."

"But I think psychologically, he feels when the important moments come, I'm going to win the points. For him, he feels he's not

going to beat me."

The two friends, seeded number 2 here in doubles, went on Saturday evening to win their semifinal doubles match, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2, over unseeded Diego Perez of Uruguay and Todd Hinksen of Carmel, Indiana. They were scheduled to play third-seeded Laurie Warder of Australia and Blaine Willenborg of Miami Shores, Florida, in Sunday's final.

Wilander, ranked number 2 in the world, has a chance to move up to number 1 by the end of the year if he continues playing the way he is now, Nystrom said.

"I played extremely well in the four games (after Wilander's 2-0 lead in the first set)," Nystrom said. "Mats lost concentration after it was 2-love."

"If he plays extremely well, I know he is tough to beat. Even though I lost, I think I played well."

Nystrom, who has won one set in each of their previous three meetings, hasn't given up hope of someday beating his friend.

"Of course I'm going to beat him. I know I will. Maybe in the over-35 tournaments, but I know I'm going to beat him."

Canadian pair wins swimming event

TOKYO (AP) — Carolyn Waldo and Michelle Cameron captured the duet synchronized swimming competition Sunday, resulting in a Canadian sweep of all three events in the 8th Pan Pacific Synchronized Swimming Championships.

The Canadian pair collected 98.600 points in the routine and 92.112 in the figure competition for a 190.712 total.

The Japanese duo of Mikako Kotani and Miyako Tanaka came in second with 182.969 points, followed by American Fatti Lynn and Heather Simmons with 181.188 points.

The competition was held before 8,700 spectators at the Yoyogi National Swimming Pool, the site of the Tokyo Olympics in 1964.

Mexicans Lourdes Candini and Susana Candini were in fourth place with 173.829 points.

Malaysian retains Asian body building title

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Abdul Malek Mohamad Noor of Malaysia retained his title as Mr. Asia for the third consecutive year at the 23rd Asian Body Building Championships in Malacca, the national news agency Bernama reported Sunday.

Iraqi Abbas Jahjah placed second, while Hassan Saleh Ali of Bahrain came in third in the Saturday night competition, the agency reported from Malacca, 120 kilometres south of Kuala Lumpur.

In the light heavyweight category, India's Prem Chand retained his title, followed by Ahmad Abbas of Iraq and Chan Wing Chung of Hong Kong, it said.

Philippine Sammy Ayochok won the middleweight title, with Imad Jasim Mahmood of Iraq in second place and Kang Kyung-Soon of South Korea in third.

In the welterweight category, Singapore's Fatholomein Ali became champion, followed by Iraqi Mahmood Ahmad Zaidan and Lee Hyun-Moon of South Korea.

The global alert is needed so athletes testing positive can not use the pill as an excuse, he said.

Quite a few brands of birth control pills contain norethisterone, said Challis.

She wasn't really taking anabolic steroids.

Olympians warned about use of birth control pill

CALGARY (R) — Women competing at the 1983 Winter Olympics will be warned against using certain brands of birth control pills which produce signs of steroids in urine tests, the games' chief medical officer said.

Dr. Bruce Challis said oral contraceptives containing norethisterone break down in the body and produce urine test results indistinguishable from those produced by banned steroids.

"You can't tell them apart," he said on Thursday. "She (an athlete) could test positive when

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Weekly Financial Report

By Fouad Batishon

AMMAN — Last week the U.S. dollar moved higher but was still trading within a narrow range. The main reason behind this upward direction was the uncertain and unclear decisions taken in the Venice summit between the leaders of the seven industrial nations.

The dollar traded between 0.342-0.348 fils on the Jordanian dinar. Local banks were covering their short dollar position because of fear that the dollar could resume its upward direction this week.

Charts indicate that the dollar could move a little higher this week due to willingness to buy the dollar on higher levels from major U.S. banks. The expected range for this week could be 0.345-0.351 fils.

The pound sterling traded much lower against the dollar because of the dollar's strength. The pound traded between 0.552-0.5570 fils.

The D.M. and S.F. also traded lower because of the higher dollar. The D.M. traded between 0.1850-0.187 fils. The

Swiss franc traded between 0.2150-0.220 fils and the Austrian shilling between 0.211-0.212 fils.

The Lebanese lira moved to record low reflecting the bad economic situation in Lebanon. It traded between (555-470) L.L./JD.

The Kuwaiti dinar traded between 1.200-1.210 on the JD, the Egyptian pound between 0.140-0.150 fils and the Iraqi dinar between 0.250-0.260 fils.

Metals traded higher at the beginning of the week but the strength of the dollar pushed them lower towards their support levels. Gold fell from \$454 an ounce to \$447 an ounce and silver fell from \$7.85 to \$7.40 an ounce.

Charts indicate that the metals have to test lower levels such as \$410 on gold before moving once again higher.

Gold price in Amman based upon the daily bulletin presented by the Jordan Jewellery Store are as follows:

Gold 21 carats per gramme JD 4.10-JD4.00
Gold 18 carats per gramme JD 5.000-4.000

ATT posts strong gain in earnings

NEW YORK (R) — American Telephone Telegraph has said that gains in its long-distance telephone business sent second-quarter profits surging 40 per cent to \$596 million, a record level since the court-ordered breakup of the company in 1984.

The improved earnings came despite a decline in revenue, which fell \$8.40 billion from \$8.42 billion the second quarter of 1986.

"These results show that our long-distance business remains strong and reflect the early-stage benefits of ongoing cost-reduction efforts as well as productivity and efficiency improvements," ATT Chairman James Olson said in a statement.

The gain, equal to 55 cents a share, compares with \$422 million in the same period last year and tops by five cents a share Wall Street analysts' most optimistic forecasts.

ATT said its 1986 second-quarter net income of 37 cents would have been 13 cents a share higher had there not been a 26-day strike by workers in its large union in June.

In addition, net income in the 1987 second-quarter was boosted by three cents a share due to an adjustment in access charge settlements, which left ATT with \$50 million more than it usually receives. Access charges are the fees ATT pays to local telephone companies in order to use their local telephone lines.

When these one-time events are taken into account, analysts said ATT really earned 52 cents this quarter compared with 50 cents last year, a modest rise of two cents.

The company, which until 1984 had a virtual monopoly on the U.S. telephone industry, announced in December a huge cost-cutting programme designed to counter its generally dismal performance since the spinning off of its seven regional telephone companies.

Its first-quarter profits rose 26 per cent to \$445 million the programme, which called for the elimination of 32,000 jobs through next year, took effect.

Although he did not make specific forecast, Mr. Olson said "ATT's earnings for 1987 should be better than the company anticipated when the year began."

Inflation rate hits record high in New Zealand

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — New Zealand's annual inflation rate has reached a record 18.9 per cent, the Labour government has announced as it prepared for next month's national election after three years in power.

The department of statistics said inflation rose by 3.3 per cent in the quarter that ended June 30 because of higher interest rates that led to rising housing costs and food and utility prices.

Czechoslovakia publishes draft on economic reform

PRAGUE (AP) — Czechoslovakia has published the draft of a new law on state-owned enterprises that emulates recent Soviet reforms by proposing a shift toward self-management and self-financing.

It also stipulates that directors of enterprises will in future be elected in secret ballots by a workers council, but does not go as far as recent Soviet measures in this respect.

In Czechoslovakia, factory floor work teams will not share the new rights of their Soviet counterparts to initiate the choice of their manager. Czech managers will be elected for five years and will appoint his own deputies, according to the draft law published by the official news agency CTK.

The state or local government retain the right to nominate candidates for the post of director and should select from people "who have high political and moral preconditions and expertise for this function," CTK said.

The draft, originally promised for mid-June, will be the subject of nationwide discussion before being passed by parliament in November. CTK said it would begin taking effect at the latest on Jan. 1, 1989 and be in full operation by early 1991.

The new law sets down a shift to self-financing, meaning that many factories will lose their state subsidies and will not be able to draw on state funds to cover losses.

Like recent Soviet measures, the draft aims to decentralise the economy by allowing firms to reach deals directly with other enterprises, rather than submitting each contract to approval from above, or operating on directives from national ministries.

Major airlines launch new travel systems

BRUSSELS (Agencies) — Three of the world's leading airlines, British Airways, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines and Swissair, have joined with Covia, a subsidiary of United Airlines, to announce their plans to lead the travel industry into the 21st century.

The four partners are launching a venture to provide the next generation of computer information and reservations systems for the travel industry. At least 75 million European travel arrangements will be made each year through the new system by 1990.

At a meeting of the presidents of the Association of European Airlines in Brussels, chief executives of the partners offered other airlines the opportunity to join the venture.

The partners are investing approximately \$120 million in this new business and supporting its launch with some of their best management and staff, taking advantage of their proven technological expertise. Within twelve months, the venture will employ 370 staff. The name and the location will be announced when the final partnership is established.

The founding partners are recognised as worldwide leaders in this field and in developing and operating IBM systems. They are pooling their existing distribution software and communications technology. The new venture will draw on the strengths of the existing systems — Travicom and British Airways' BAIS, KLM's Corda, Swissair's Travisswiss and Covia's Apollo.

The venture will also maximise the benefits of the recently announced new generation of personal computers — such as the IBM P.S./2 intelligent workstation.

This combination will open a whole new range of user-friendly services for travel agents. This will include neutral displays, integrated reservations and accounting systems, enhanced management information and access to comprehensive international travel services, such as fares, hotels, car hire and rail.

The first product will be available in early 1988. Later that year, the partners' systems will be fully linked allowing travel agents' systems to retrieve automatically the best information, by mid 1989, the introduction of a newly-designed IBM based central core system will further improve the cost-effectiveness of the whole operation.

Tunisia turns to tourism, farming in new 5-year plan

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia, grappling with an economic crisis, is turning increasingly to tourism, phosphates and agriculture to fuel an export drive called for in its new five-year plan.

The 1987-1991 plan predicts that this North African country, whose economy has until now been built around crude oil exports, will become a net oil importer in 1991.

It is this stark prospect which is forcing President Habib Bourguiba's government to turn urgently to fresh economic pastures.

Tunisia was compelled last year to submit for the first time to International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank programmes to attract loans to stave off acute balance of payments problems.

Agriculture, which declined as Tunisia's relatively modest oil wealth was exploited in the 1970s, still employs about one in three Tunisians and this is now predicted to be a key growth sector.

The newly-released draft seventh economic plan, which President Bourguiba has approved and which is due to be passed into law by parliament, foresees, a six per cent return for the sector over the next five years.

It forecasts vigorous export growth, averaging 5.3 per cent a year in real terms.

Of this, revenue from tourism, which was down last year compared with 1985, is forecast to grow by 7.5 per cent a year in real terms.

Tourism has become all the more important because of declining oil exports, which are expected to lead to a net oil deficit of some 50 million dinars (\$60 million) in 1991.

As oil exports drop, Tunisia must still import for its domestic needs crude oil of a quality it does not produce and tourism replaced crude oil as Tunisia's biggest foreign exchange earner last year, despite the downturn in the sector.

Under the plan, the sector of phosphates and derivatives is to increase by 7.1 per cent a year over the next five years, textiles by 7.4 per cent, and mechanical and electrical products by 11.3 per cent.

One of the key elements of the new plan is a programme relaxing tight restrictions on imports and prices, which the World Bank has made a condition of its 1986 loan.

By 1991 import restrictions are to be abolished for all but some luxury goods and customs dues slashed to between 15 and 25 per

cent to stimulate domestic competition.

The programme is also designed to ensure imports of raw materials and semi-finished products essential for exports.

The predicted growth of agriculture is expected to help generate four per cent average annual growth in gross domestic product (GDP) during the plan, compared with 2.9 per cent in the past five years. Recession took hold last year and GDP growth was minus one per cent.

The balance of payment deficit, which represented 7.8 per cent of gross national product (GNP) last year, is forecast to shrink to three per cent of GNP by the end of the coming plan.

Total foreign debt is predicted to reach 6,632 billion dinars (\$7.8 billion) by 1991, or 36.4 per cent of GNP, compared to 38.7 per cent last year.

The government acknowledges that unemployment is one of the stiffer challenges it faces in the coming years.

With the official jobless rate at 13.8 per cent at present, the labour market will be further depressed by an estimated additional 346,000 job seekers between now and 1991, only 70 per cent of whom are forecast to be able to find employment under the plan.

Soviet industry meets target

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet industrial output was on target and plans for fuel extraction were met but supplies of food and consumer goods were still inadequate in the first six months of this year, the Central Statistics Board said Sunday.

Industrial output rose by 14 billion roubles (\$21 billion) or 3.5 per cent as planned in the first half of the year and by 4.4 per cent in the second quarter, the board said.

It attributed the growth to improved labour productivity, a key element in Kremlin leader Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev's programme to make the economy more efficient that also includes introducing new technology and decentralising management.

Oil production from January to June reached 309 million tonnes,

3.7 million tonnes more than the plan target and two per cent more than in the same period last year.

Production of gas, like oil an important hard-currency earner for the Soviet Union, was also healthy, reaching 359 billion cubic metres, 6.7 billion more than planned and six per cent more than in the first half of 1986.

But the board said meat supplies were still problematic, though 5.9 million tonnes were produced, seven per cent more than planned, and the plan for fruit and vegetable production was underfulfilled by seven per cent.

Public demand for high-quality manufactured goods was also not properly satisfied.

The state had, however, invested 16.5 billion roubles (\$25.7 billion) in industrial modernisation.

10 per cent more than in the first six months of last year, and injected a further 20 billion roubles (\$31 billion) into agriculture.

A separate report from TASS news agency said independent quality control inspections, now affecting some 1,500 factories accounting for more than 20 per cent of industrial output, would be extended to a further 727 enterprises on Jan. 1, 1988.

The range of products controlled in this way would extend from heavy engineering goods and petrochemicals to food and building materials.

The board's report said January to June production of vodka was down by nine per cent and beer by three per cent although champagne production rose by 14 per cent.

Taipei lifts ban on pleasure trips

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan, in the latest of a series of liberalisation moves, last week lifted an eight-year ban on tourists travelling directly to Hong Kong and Macao.

The ban was mainly imposed to deter Taiwanese from visiting mainland China via the two territories. Taipei forbids visits to the communist mainland, with which it is still technically at war.

A statement by Premier Yu Kuo-Hua said the ban, which forced tourists to fly to another country before Hong Kong and Macao, was imposed to limit speculation there by Taiwanese in

foreign currencies.

Taipei earlier lifted foreign exchange controls and ended martial law, in force since the nationalists retreated to Taiwan in 1949 after losing a civil war to the communists.

"The lifting of the travel ban is a further government liberalisation move," Mr. Yu said.

Taiwanese discovered to have gone to China are banned from travelling abroad again for three years.

Business sources said the removal of the travel ban would reinforce links between Taiwan and Hong Kong before the Brit-

ish colony reverts to China in 1997.

Despite the ban, travel to Hong Kong and Macao has surged in the past eight years, a tourism bureau spokesman told Reuters. The numbers rose to 220,469 in 1986 from 176,617 in 1985.

Hong Kong is Taiwan's third largest trading partner after the United States and Japan. Two-way trade rose to \$2.22 billion in the first half of 1987 against 1.47 billion a year ago, official figures show. Businessmen had been exempt from the direct travel ban.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, JULY 20, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Start out the day by attending to whatever practical endeavors you have left hanging. Progressive attitudes will yield favorable results now.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Be with your contemporaries and have some fun. Get in touch with those you have not seen for a while.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Handle your personal interests now. Take the time to improve home conditions. Enjoy a light social affair.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) See advisers to get good suggestions which you can act using right away. Take no risks while out driving.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Go after a personal wish and gain it. After a chat with friends, take some time to be alone with your mate.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) The morning is fine for pushing career matters. You can easily gain your personal wishes by using different methods.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be alert to some fascinating opportunity for advancement. Discuss your ideas with an expert now.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Keep the promises you have made. Get into the best of these for greater profit in the days ahead.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You can come to an agreement with one who has been difficult in the past. Iron out the details with this person.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get a good start today by handling important affairs wisely. Be more supportive of a co-worker.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Make plans for amusements in the near future. Be happy with your mate in the evening.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Handling home affairs precisely can have satisfactory results. Later get together with a good friend.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get reports and statements handled wisely. Invite guests into your home for a few good laughs.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she, will be very practical and physically strong. Upon reaching adulthood your progeny will become more interested in idealistic matters. Combined with the innate practical skills, much success is possible. Your son, or daughter, will need family support.

THE Daily Crossword by Fran Ragus

ACROSS

- Make coffee
- Mine entrance
- Restaurant
- Salts or Arkin
- Reporter Pyle
- Gloriole
- Part of a football team
- Soca — Fla.
- Paris
- Decides
- Wannabe
- Slaphoric
- Expensive
- Ligata
- Talk the car
- Leader
- Psychic
- Participial ending
- More racy
- Freudian term
- "Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting"

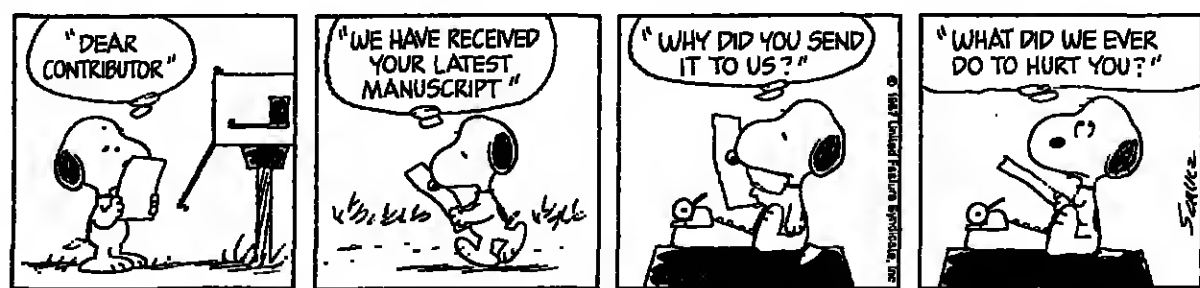
DOWN

- Typical tree
- Lamb
- and file
- Guinean
- Antidote
- Pittail
- Biblical word

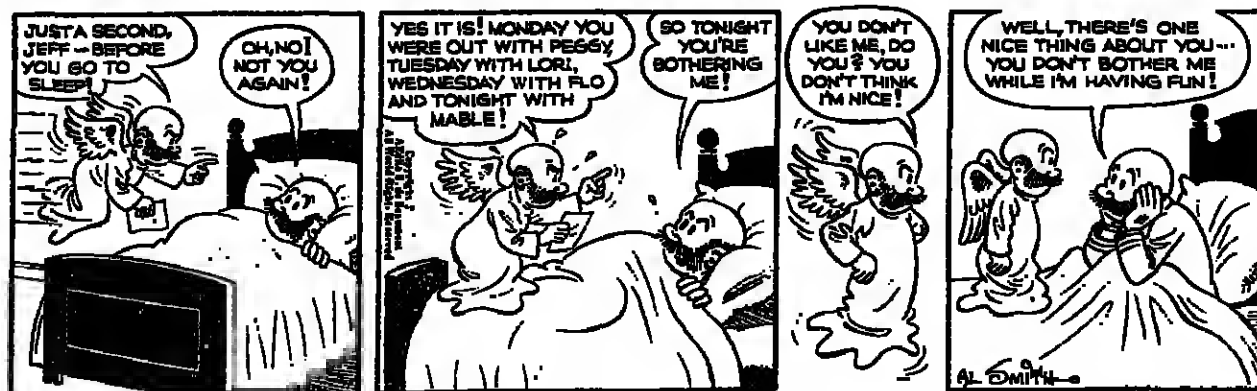
Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

8 Celebrity
9 First king of Egypt
10 Foolish fancy
11 Meta
12 Dash
13 Doting
14 Weaken
15 Passover meal
16 Transfer
17 Melchior or Casanova
18 Tidal bore
19 Grity
20 Locust
21 Suburb of Minneapolis
22 Pargson
23 Las Vegas
24 Unusually notched
25 Gymnast's leg
26 Suez abut
27 Brawl
28 Not solid or liquid
29 Dressing
30 Devotee
31 Proboscis
32 Endures old style
33 Knell
34 La Scala solo
35 Foresaw
36 A Gardner
37 Peddle
38 Knight's wear
39 Racetrack
40 Festival
41 Dintofous

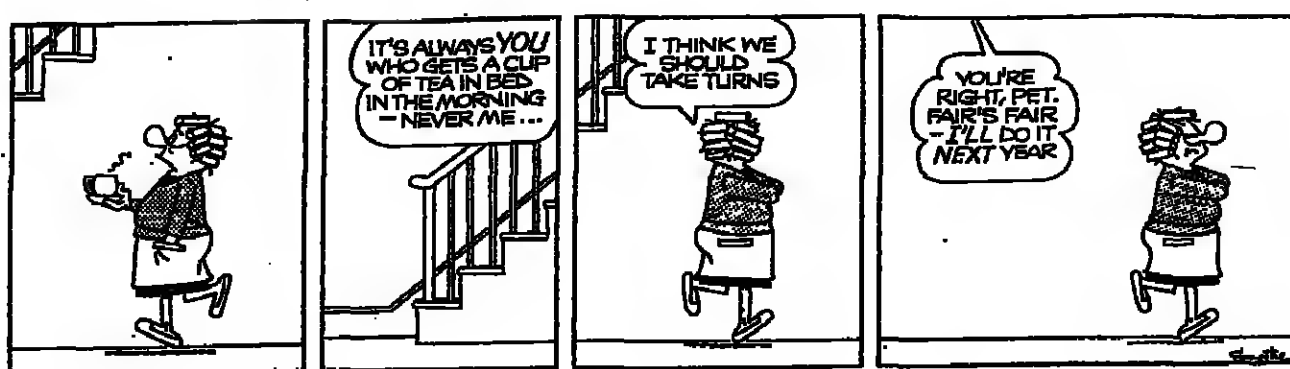
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

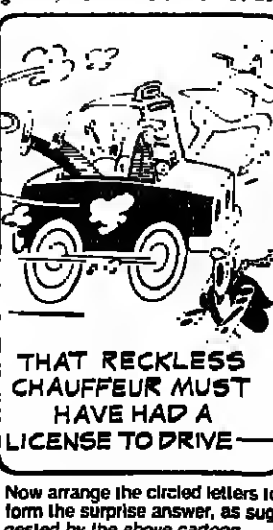


JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DELOY
NAPOC
TOZALE
PREJUM



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

ANSWER:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CANAL PRUNE GENTRY EGOISM
Answer: It takes more than this to pay an accountant's bill — PIN MONEY

Thatcher to convey U.S. 'concern' over arms talks to Gorbachev

LONDON (Agencies) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said Sunday she would be telling Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev there was concern in the United States that he was dragging his feet on arms control negotiations.

Speaking to newsmen aboard a Royal Air Force plane taking her home from a visit to Washington, where she met President Reagan, and to Jamaica, Mrs. Thatcher said she hoped an agreement could be signed this year.

"Of course we will be in touch with Mr. Gorbachev, because one of the frequent questions we have been asked is whether the Soviet Union is dragging its feet on arms control negotiations."

"I don't think so, but I think that message should be sent to Mr. Gorbachev so that the negotiations, if he wants an agreement, and I think he does, can perhaps get down to details, and completed, I hope, by the end of the year."

Mrs. Thatcher said negotiations between the two superpow-

ers on an agreement to ban medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe, and possibly from the whole world, had reached their most difficult stage.

"No-one is going to give away anything that they think is against their interests," she said.

Mrs. Thatcher's assessment of the prospects for an arms agreement is more optimistic than that of some U.S. officials who are concerned over a recent slowdown in progress in the negotiations between the two sides in Geneva.

During her brief trip to Washington, Mrs. Thatcher said Moscow might be engaging in a little brinkmanship, but believed the main reason for the delay was efforts by both sides to get the details right.

She dismissed suggestions, widely expressed in the U.S. media, that the Kremlin was stalling deliberately in the hope of winning more concessions from a weakened U.S. president.

"I'm sure he won't be weakened when it comes to negotiating for the great United States of America with the Soviet Union because the fact is America is the leader of the free world," Mrs. Thatcher told a television interviewer.

"She's a strong country and I'm sure when it comes to negotiate there'll be no weakening at all."

Mrs. Thatcher, who established a good working relationship with Mr. Gorbachev during a visit to the Soviet Union earlier this year, said she had no immediate plans to see the Kremlin leader personally but added they were in regular contact through diplomatic channels.

"The kind of tour I did to the Soviet Union is one that one can't repeat too often," she said.

'Senators checked medical records' of dying Casey

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Members of two Senate committees monitored the condition of the late Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William Casey to make sure he was dying of cancer, U.S. News and World Report said Sunday.

Quoting congressional sources, the news magazine said the senators feared a deception and wanted to be able to assure the public that Mr. Casey, a central figure in the Iran-contra affair, was actually dying of natural causes.

The magazine's July 27 issue quoted two highly placed congressional sources, whom it did not identify by name, as saying that members of the Senate Intelligence Committee and another Senate committee reviewed Mr. Casey's blood tests and other evidence of declining health. The magazine did not name the second committee.

Some intelligence committee members also obtained autopsy information because they wanted to be able to assure the public that Mr. Casey actually died of natural causes following the brain seizures that prevented him from testifying about the Iran-Contra affair.

Mr. Casey was stricken in December on the day before he was to have testified on the matter before the intelligence committee.

Senator Sam Nunn, an opposition Democrat and a member of both the intelligence committee and the Senate Iran-contra investigating committee, refused comment on the magazine's report.

"I'm not confirming or denying it," he said in a telephone interview.

The magazine quoted Sen. David Boren, an opposition Democrat, as denying that the intelligence committee, which he chairs, undertook to monitor Mr. Casey's health, but he said he did not know if any individual senators may have done so. Boren is also on the Iran-contra committee.

Mr. Casey underwent surgery Dec. 18 for removal of a malignant brain tumour. He never recovered, and died May 6 of what the hospital said were complications of central nervous system lymphoma.

Since his death, testimony and documents have revealed that he was a key figure in the administration's private efforts to supply the Nicaraguan contra rebels during a congressional ban on U.S. military aid. He would have been a major witness in the public hearings by congressional committees investigating the affair.

Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North, the fired National Security Council aide, said he was consulted closely with Mr. Casey on the diversion of profits from secret U.S. arms sales to Iran to the contras and on the contra supply efforts.

Gandhi expels leading critic from party

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi expelled his leading political critic from the Congress (I) Party on Sunday, Indian news agencies said.

V.P. Singh, a respected former minister campaigning for a clean-up of the political establishment, is the eighth prominent political figure who has been expelled by Mr. Gandhi or resigned since Wednesday.

The agency quoted Congress General Secretary G.K. Moopnar as saying Mr. Singh had been dismissed for "anti-party activities."

Mr. Singh, the best-known Congress rebel and the focus of anti-Gandhi sentiment in the party, was forced to resign as defence minister in April after ordering an inquiry into alleged payoffs on a submarine deal with a West German firm.

He offered to resign on Thursday from the party and the Rajya Sabha (Upper House of Parliament) after Mr. Gandhi expelled three other leading Congress dissidents, all former ministers, including his cousin Arun Nehru.

Mr. Gandhi refused Mr. Singh's resignation, saying the ex-minister had tried to impose conditions for his departure.

The expulsion 48 hours later followed Saturday night's resignation of Arun Singh, a junior defence minister and Gandhi confidant.

Arun Singh was the third prominent politician to resign from the cabinet or parliament this week.

Mr. Gandhi's childhood friend

Sri Lanka and India discussing new peace proposal to end Tamil rebellion

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka and India are discussing the creation of a single administrative apparatus in the island's north and east to end the Tamil guerrilla rebellion there, newspapers reported Sunday.

The state-owned Sunday Observer said President Junius Jayewardene and his cabinet held wide-ranging talks on the proposal with Indian High Commissioner (Ambassador) Jyotindra Nath Dixit in the past two weeks.

Official sources said Mr. Dixit left for New Delhi Saturday to brief Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on the discussions.

There was no immediate official comment on the press reports.

Newspapers, quoting unnamed sources, said the plan envisaged the creation of a provincial council to administer northern and eastern provinces.

Tamils, a minority in the island as a whole, predominate in the northern province, while a mixed population of Sinhalese and Tamils lives in the east. Guerrillas are fighting for a separate Tamil state in both provinces.

The sources said the new proposal was meant to placate rebel demands for a merger of the northern and eastern areas.

Mr. Jayewardene told a meeting of a government-sponsored union on Saturday that an autonomous council in the two provinces under a unitary system of government was under consideration.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the most powerful Tamil rebel organisation, has said it was willing to resume peace talks with the government if its basic demand of a merged north and east as a Tamil homeland was accepted, the independent Weekend reported.

It quoted an LTTE spokesman as saying in northern Jaffna city that they were amenable to talks under Indian supervision.

India, acting as mediator, has previously arranged talks between the rebels and the Sri Lankan government but they failed to agree on ending the conflict which traces its origins to the British colonial period in the Indian sub-continent.

Marcos threatens Manila with \$15b counter suit

MANILA (R) — Ousted President Ferdinand Marcos threatened on Sunday to sue the Philippines government for \$15 billion over charges that he stole a fortune from the country during his 20-year rule.

In a telex from exile in Hawaii to his publishers in Manila, Marcos said President Corason Aquino's government was seeking to convict him on corruption charges by publicity and not by public trial.

He said a proposal to restrict him to a beach resort during any trial in the Philippines amounted to cruelty and denied him equal protection of the law.

"I can smell the repugnant propaganda ploy and the conspiracy of conviction by publicity," Mr. Marcos said of the idea to keep him at the Mariveles resort near Manila.

The Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG) last week filed two civil suits in Manila accusing Marcos, his family and business associates of amassing \$10 billion during his presidency. It also plans to file criminal charges.

Commission Chairman Ramon Diaz on Saturday suggested trying Marcos at Corregidor, an island popularly called "The

Rock" at the mouth of Manila Bay, and holding him between sessions at Mariveles.

The fortress island is honeycombed with tunnels, one of which was used by General Douglas MacArthur as his headquarters during the World War II. It is now a tourist attraction.

Officials say Mariveles is one of Marcos' many properties. It was seized by the government after Marcos was deposed by Mrs. Aquino in a civilian-backed military revolt last year.

Marcos' lawyer Rafael Recto said the former president would rely on his constitutional rights to return home to file the \$15 billion retaliatory suit and defend himself.

"He has not been convicted of any crime. Why keep him in Mariveles. Such a move is cruel and unjust," Recto said.

Recto earlier told Reuters he saw Marcos as a dragon with its head in Hawaii and its tail in the Philippines. "Whenever the tail moves, the Aquino government shakes."

The military said on Saturday that a coup plot uncovered a week ago appeared to be connected with a plan to bring Marcos back.

8 civilians reportedly killed in contra raid

MANAGUA (Agencies) — U.S.-backed contra rebels killed eight civilians including a woman and a child on Saturday in a raid on a farming cooperative, the Nicaraguan Defence Ministry said.

The Rafael Martinez cooperative is about 150 kilometres northeast of Managua, and 60 kilometres from Matagalpa, the site of celebrations due to be held on Sunday of the Sandinista government's eight years in power.

Sandinista officials have said Matagalpa, in a region of near-constant contra attacks, was chosen as a symbol of the toll the war is taking.

The ministry said the contras were eventually repelled by militia forces defending the cooperative.

The government has adopted strict security measures for the celebrations including numerous army patrols along the highway leading from Managua to Matagalpa and helicopter surveillance of nearby hills.

Earlier this week, the Defence Ministry said 27 contras were killed in attacks on three towns in a surge of fighting in the embattled north of Nicaragua.

Madrid meeting planned

Representatives of the seven legal Nicaraguan opposition parties plan a four-day seminar in Madrid next week to work toward forging democratic alternative to a shrine in Tokyo remembering the war dead, including war criminals.

S. Korea launches massive relief work after typhoon

SEOUL (AP) — More than 167,000 government personnel, villagers and military reservists were at work Sunday repairing roads, buildings and other facilities damaged by typhoon Thelma, officials said.

The Home Ministry said the death toll from the typhoon that hit the southern tip of the Korean Peninsula Thursday had reached 111 on Sunday, with 257 others still missing and feared dead.

Many of the missing are seamen and fishermen whose boats were sunk by the storm. Officials said there was little hope of finding survivors alive after four days at sea.

Ships were still searching for survivors in some areas along the southern coast, but searches had been called off in other areas or were being wound down, officials said.

Officials at the national counter-disaster centre in Seoul, which reported the massive clean up effort, said the repair crews were assisted by hundreds of heavy-duty trucks and other construction equipment.

The officials said emergency stop-gap repair work was about 90 per cent complete, but much long-term work had to be done before life could return to normal. South Kyongsang and South Cholla provinces along the southern coast were hardest hit by the typhoon.

Roads were blocked in scores of places by landslides and toppled trees, and hundreds of buildings were destroyed or damaged. The storm caused enormous damage with its 160-kilometre per hour winds and torrential rains that triggered landslides and

widespread flooding.

More than 20,000 people in 4,600 families lost their homes, and many were still living in emergency shelters set up in schools and government buildings, the officials said.

They said 6,510 homes and other buildings had been destroyed or damaged by the storm. Deputy Prime Minister Chang In-Yong and four other cabinet ministers were scheduled to hold a news conference Monday to announce the government's relief aid and other programmes to repair the damage caused by the typhoon, officially estimated at \$193 million.

The officials at the counter-disaster centre said 180 of the dead or missing were seamen or fishermen and that a total of 3,385 ships and fishing boats were destroyed or damaged by the typhoon.

Most of the ships were wrecked on beaches where they had been pulled out of water to try to escape the storm, they said.

Emergency relief officials have complained that there was not sufficient warning of the typhoon and emergency services were caught unprepared.

The state-run TV network KBS and some local newspapers have charged the state weather service failed to correctly predict the course of the typhoon by saying it would pass offshore. Instead, the typhoon battered the southern part of the peninsula.

About 100 angry farmers blocked a road with vehicles Saturday near the southern town of Samchong demanding full compensation for homes and crops damaged by the storm.

Bangladesh opposition unites against Ershad

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh's opposition appealed to the country on Sunday to stage its second general strike in two weeks to oust President Hossain Mohammad Ershad.

The appeal for a 54-hour stoppage was issued by opposition arch-rivals who buried their differences to oust what they termed a "military dictatorship."

"If he still sticks to power, the magnitude of our campaign will take a serious turn, the like of which was never seen in this country before," the Awami League opposition group said. It gave no further details.

Three groupings of 20 parties issued statements calling for the strike from Wednesday morning. It is timed to end before the overwhelmingly Muslim country holds Friday prayers.

Bangladesh was brought to a halt last week by an opposition-backed 72-hour strike, the biggest since General Ershad restored parliament last November and ended military rule.

Western diplomats described the new opposition move as significant because it brought Begum Khaleda Zia and Sheikh Hasina, the leaders of the two main alliances, under a united platform against Gen. Ershad.

Mrs. Khaleda and Mrs. Hasina had been at loggerheads since Mrs. Hasina's Awami League decided to take part in parliamentary elections in May last year.

Both have since swapped invective at public rallies and accused each other of seeking a secret entente with Gen. Ershad. But they decided to bury their past.

\$40 million painting heading for Japan

LONDON (AP) — A painting of sunflowers by Vincent van Gogh, sold in London in March for a world record £24.75 million (\$39.85 million), was being flown to Tokyo on Sunday, auctioneers Christie's said.

"It is being flown from England on Sunday morning and it should get to the headquarters of the Yasuda Fire and Marine Insurance Co. in the Shinjuku-Ku district of Tokyo at around 6 p.m. Tokyo time," Christie's spokesman William Hanham told the Associated Press.

But Yoshiro Kori, a Yasuda official, told the Associated Press in Tokyo Sunday that the painting was not due to arrive in Japan until Monday "if everything goes as scheduled." He refused to give any other details for security reasons.

Hanham said the picture was handed over this weekend to a Yasuda Co. board director and was going to Tokyo with an escort of three people. Their identities and the flight details were not disclosed for security reasons, Hanham added.

The brilliant yellow painting of 15 flowers in a vase, titled "Sunflowers," will form the centrepiece of the Yasuda Museum, the Japanese company's collection of some 400 Western and Japanese works of art.

After the Yasuda Co. was identified in April as the buyer, British press reports said the company — Japan's second largest insurance firm — was privately rebuked by Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone for spending so much money on the picture. The reports said Mr. Nakasone felt the purchase might damage Japan's image abroad.

Since the March 30 auction, the Van Gogh was held by government order in a high security warehouse at Christie's in London under the customary six-months delay period to give British buyers a chance to raise funds to keep it in this country.

Meese testimony in Iran-contra hearings put off for a week

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorney General Edwin Meese will testify before congressional committees investigating the Iran-contra affair a week later than originally expected, according to Justice Department officials.

Mr. Meese's role in the affair has not been clearly defined, despite weeks of testimony by others involved in the secret arms sales to Iran and diversion of profits from those sales to the contra rebels fighting to overthrow Nicaragua's Sandinista government.

Mr. Meese has been portrayed by some in congress as a possible participant in a cover-up who was more interested in protecting President Ronald Reagan than in having a vigorous investigation conducted.

The attorney general had been expected to appear before the congressional committees investigating the affair after Rear Admiral John Poindexter, the former National Security adviser, completes his testimony this week.

Haitian army expands its role; strikes called off

PORT-AU-PRINCE (R) — The Haitian army created eight new commands on Sunday as part of what well-informed sources say is a thrust to enforce law and order on this troubled Caribbean nation.

A source close to the government said the move was apparently aimed at giving the army a stronger hand in controlling unrest in the country, which has been hit for the past four weeks by a series of on-again, off-again general strikes.

The strikes, designed to pressure the military-dominated National Council of Government (CNG) into resigning, have paralysed the capital and damaged businesses in the provinces.

Organisers had said Friday the strikes would continue until the CNG resigned in favour of a five-member council named by opposition groups, but the strikes were called off Saturday without explanation.

Strike leaders said they would announce other measures to

pressure the CNG to resign, including demonstrations. They gave no further details.

The strikes had closed public transport, most shops, some government offices, banks and most petrol stations and were sometimes accompanied by violence.

Earlier this week, witnesses said strikers smashed or burned at least 48 vehicles, including the West German ambassador's car, which was stoned and fired on.

Saturday's lengthy decree announcing the creation of the new army commands said the new posts would be held by generals yet to be named from among officers now holding the rank of colonel.

Each would be responsible for military affairs in a geographic region of Haiti or a military institution, the decree said.

Haiti now has only two generals, Lieutenant-General Henri Namphy, who is president of the CNG, and Brigadier-General Williams Regala, a CNG member.

Up to 35 guards protecting North home

WASHINGTON (AP) — The navy guard on Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North's home in Great Falls, Virginia, has been nearly doubled since his appearance before the Iran-contra committees, according to a marine corps letter. Peter M. Murphy, counsel for the corps commander, said the normal coverage is 15 to 20 agents, but it was increased to 35 last week when North began testifying before the congressional committees.

Sen. Warren Rudman released Murphy's July 9 letter, which was in answer to committee questions about North's security. North, a former National Security Council aide, testified the government took no action on his April 1986 request for protection at his home after he allegedly was threatened by Abu Nidal. North then had a private security system installed at his home. He admitted to the committees he didn't pay for it and that he tried to cover up that fact with phony documents.

Man charged for attack on drawing

LONDON (R) — An unemployed man was charged Saturday night with causing criminal damage to a charcoal drawing by Leonardo da Vinci in a shotgun attack in London's National Gallery. Police said Robert Anthony Cambridge, 37, would appear in court on Monday, accused of firing at the cartoon, a priceless work of art and the gallery's most popular exhibit.

Chinese battle pests at emperor's tomb

PEKING (R) — Thousands of people are battling caterpillars that are destroying trees at the tomb of the legendary father of China, the People's Daily overseas edition said Sunday. It said 14,000 people had since mid-June been seizing caterpillars that had caused the withering of nearly 400 ancient cypresses at the tomb of the Yellow Emperor in Xian. The tomb site in the central province of Shaanxi has more than 80,000 cypresses, planted since the emperor lived more than 3,000 years ago. The pest plague has not yet been fully controlled, the newspaper said.

No claimant for \$3.98 million

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Somebody apparently just tossed away \$3.98 million dollars. Time ran out for the unknown, and likely unknown, winner of a California lottery ticket purchased in San Francisco's Chinatown for the Jan. 17 drawing. The winner had six months to claim the jackpot, and the deadline was midnight Thursday. There was only one chance that the winner could collect the loot — if he or she mailed in the ticket and the envelope was postmarked before the deadline. The winning numbers were 13-20-21-28-35-36. The presumed forfeiture ended speculation of a last-minute filing for the prize by a hapless winner. At least some of the millions will be turned over to the lottery's education fund, which benefits state schools.

'Weeping' Madonna's 'tears' dry up

CHICAGO (AP) — The Virgin Mary's "tears" have dried, but the legacy of the "weeping" icon has unleashed a flood of giving to the city's poor, a priest says. The Rev. Philip Kufos said that moisture stopped appearing near the eyes of the painting on June 4, but was still appearing between the Madonna's fingers. The "tears" were first seen early in December on the feast of the church's patron, St. Nicholas. The phenomenon, which has yet to be explained, drew visitors to the St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church from as far away as people a day continue to visit the northwest side church. Kufos said the "tears" have left behind a tangible gift for the city's poor — contributions from worshippers totalling enough money to produce "thousands and thousands in interest every year." The church has never solicited the donations, Kufos said. "The more you don't ask, the more people give," he said. "So much has been given by the poor that it should go back to the poor."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
1,186 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

THINK TWICE BEFORE PLAYING

Both vulnerable with 60 on score.
East deals.

NORTH
♠ A J 5
♥ Q 3
♦ Q J 10 7
♣ 7 5 4 3

EAST
♠ K 8
♥ A 10 9 8 4 2
♦ 9 5 4 2
♣ 2

SOUTH
♠ Q 10 9 7 4 3
♥ J 6
♦ K 8
♣ A Q 9

The bidding:
East 1♠ South 2♥ North 3♥
Pass 3♠ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♣

At a time of turmoil in Europe, one country's national airline exhorted us to think twice about taking a vacation there. Many people must have taken them up on that, because tourism dropped. Perhaps they should have thought carefully about that slogan.

You should always think carefully, and often twice, before adopting a line of play at the bridge table. Consider this hand where,

with both sides vulnerable and having a partscore, South becomes declarer at three spades and West leads what is to everyone (except perhaps his partner) an obvious singleton. Declarer captures East's king with the ace and, obsessed about guarding against a club ruff, bangs out the ace of spades and another. West wins and leads a low heart to his partner's king. The jack of clubs return is covered by the queen, but the defenders still have two red aces and a club to take for down one.

To appreciate the folly of South's ways, let's consider what would transpire if East did indeed hold king and one spade and declarer adopted the same line. East would win the spade and lead the jack of clubs to set up a club trick for himself. He would regain the lead in whichever red suit he held the entry, and the defenders would come to one trump trick, two hearts, a diamond and a club.

In other words, declarer cannot make his contract unless the spade finesse is going to succeed! The right play at trick two, therefore, is rather plain: Run the queen of spades. When that succeeds declarer is sure of at least six spade tricks, two club tricks and one diamond.